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THE MEETING AT WILLIS'S ROOMS.

The meeting at Willis's Rooms has taken place, and the Conservative leaders have given their opinion as to the duty of England in the face of the Egyptian crisis. We have already expressed our view as to the propriety of such a meeting at this moment, and nothing in the record of its proceedings has induced us to change that view. There is nothing, indeed, in the resolutions themselves with which any fault can be found. Every one is agreed that the pledges given by her Majesty's Government ought to be kept, that the interests of the British Empire ought to be regarded, and that the lives and property of British subjects in Egypt ought to be protected. No champion of the Opposition is more convinced of these things than her Majesty's Government themselves; and there can be little doubt that if Lord Salisbury or Sir Stafford Northcote had thought fit to make these propositions the subject of debate in Parliament, it is difficult to see how the Ministry could have declined to accept them. But it seemed good to the Chiefs of the Opposition to transfer the theatre of their attack—for an attack it really was—from the Council Chamber of the nation to a public dining-room. It is impossible to feel a very serious interest in a movement so conducted, or to agree in any manner with Lord Salisbury when he said that the only resource left to him was to "bring the opinion of the people to bear upon the counsels of the Ministry" by means of a ticket meeting at Willis's Rooms. Nor is the matter of Lord Salisbury's speech of a nature to do away with the sense of unreality with which the whole affair is invested. To those who have read the Blue Books and have watched the most recent stages of English policy, and especially the military preparations which have been and are being conducted without bustle or noise, but rapidly and on a great scale, there is something almost comic in this speech of denunciation and foreboding. "The policy which the Government are pursuing," says the ex-Foreign Secretary, "is dark, mysterious, and unintelligible." It has been more hesitating than was desirable mainly on account of the necessity of acting with the ally with whom Lord Salisbury himself provided us; but if there are any epithets that exactly fail to describe its actual or recent phases, they are those which he applies to them. There is nothing dark or mysterious in the policy of accepting the French invitation to a Conference, or in meanwhile getting ready troops for the protection of our interests, and for securing that the decisions of the Conference shall be no *brutum fulmen*. There is nothing unintelligible in first trying by every means to secure a solution of the question which should not set Europe in a blaze. The Government is as fully alive as Lord Salisbury and Mr. Bouverie themselves to the necessity of bringing the Egyptian crisis to an end that shall not jeopardize the vast interests which England has in the Isthmus and the Nile Valley. Yet the titular Opposition and the candid friend unite to choose for reading the Government a lecture the very moment when it is taking the lead in promoting a settlement which should be enforced upon the Egyptian insurgents with overwhelming authority.—*Times*.

The *Standard* says:—"We entirely agree with Lord Randolph Churchill that it would have been infinitely more effective had the recognised Conservative Leaders been its ostensible as well as the real inaugurators of Thursday's meeting, and had other features been wanting to it which we need not now stop to recapitulate. Excluding these preliminary objections, the meeting, as far as it went, was a success; that is to say, the rooms were crowded, the Resolutions skilfully framed, the speaking was good, and the applause genuine. It may be said, perhaps, that the Resolutions were mere truisms, and that something much stronger and with greater point would have been more to the present purpose. But to a friendly eye it will be easily apparent that the very sting of the Resolutions lay in their simplicity and obviousness. The mere fact that it should have been found necessary to call a public meeting in order to remind the Government of so fundamental and primary a duty as is recorded in the second Resolution, will be generally accepted as the most cutting sarcasm that could have been levelled at it. The "importance of making effectual provision for the security of the lives and property of British subjects in Egypt" would not, under ordinary circumstances, have required even to be named. To what a pass we must have come, therefore, when the Government of the day seems to show itself so utterly neglectful of one of its rudimentary functions as to justify the discussion of it by a public meeting, lest it should be totally forgotten! Nor is the first Resolution much behind the second in the unavowed satire of its terms, "that it is the duty of the Government not to consent to any settlement of Egyptian affairs which is inconsistent with the pledges given by her Majesty's Government, or with the traditional policy of England, or with the interests of the British Empire." What English Government ought to be suspected of any intention to break its word, or to consent to any policy inconsistent with the interests of the British Empire? The most violent invective, the most vivid colouring, could not have brought out into such strong relief the misconduct of the present Government as these few simple sentences, recording in the nakedest manner the duty which, as the meeting at Willis's Rooms felt, down to the present moment they have omitted to perform.

The *Daily News* observes:—All the orators who took part in the meeting merely indulged in the vaguest and most general denunciations of her Majesty's Ministers and of their policy. Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues, the meeting were told again and again, had reduced England to the deepest depths of humiliation, and blotted out England's sun, and blunted the sharpness of England's sword, and done a great many other terrible metaphorical things which happily seemed to be capable of exposition only in metaphor. But nothing was said which could tend to help her Majesty's Government out of a difficulty, if they were in any difficulty requiring help from their opponents and their unfriendly critics. Nobody was kind enough to say what there was which, in his opinion, the Government ought definitely to have done. When the whole question comes to be raised in Parliament we may be sure that Lord Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote will not think they can get off by such poor displays of inflated and meaningless rhetoric. They will have to tell their listeners, the one in the Lords and the other in the Commons, what it exactly is of which they complain, and what is the precise course which, in view of the difficulties, they would have recommended. The inflation of the speeches was ridiculous. The prosaic terms of the resolutions were ridiculous. But when extravagant and denunciatory rhetoric led to nothing stronger than resolutions of vapid formality, the ridiculous character of the whole proceeding became magnified out of measure. Mr. Chaplin announced that another great meeting is to be held on Saturday week at St. James's Hall. Jura is to answer back to the joyous Alps. St. James's Hall is to send back the echoes to Willis's Rooms. But unless St. James's Hall can find something better to utter than the mere re-echo of what was said at Willis's Rooms, the multiplication of meetings will be only like the reverberation of sounds awakened in a mountain pass by the discharge of a worthless old gun, or the blast of a wheezy bugle.

THE CRISIS IN EGYPT.

The Alexandria correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Thursday night:—

Arabi Pacha arrived here last night. I had an interview with him this morning. He was very courteous, and replied to most of my questions affably and with frankness. I asked him point blank "What course will you take if the Sultan, at the behest of the Conference, orders you to proceed to Constantinople?" He replied, "That question is a hard one. It comprises the corner-stone of the situation. Yet my answer will be that, as I am the faithful servant of the Sultan, I am ready to obey him in everything that is possible. I would accordingly go to Constantinople—when I knew the reason why." Arabi then went on to talk about the panic. He was very satirical on the European scare. He ridiculed the terrified people who have been running for their lives. The panic was simply, in his opinion, due to European cowardice, and it smote with fear a community the members of which had not even the pluck of mice. He said they had allowed themselves to be misled by the local paper—the *Egyptian Gazette*—which at the outset manufactured the panic to serve its own interests. He remarked "I shall probably have to suppress the *Gazette*." As for the explosive bombs which it is reported he has had laid down in the Canal, he denied that there were any such in existence. He said, "You have spies everywhere. Let them examine, and they will find nothing." Arabi returns to Cairo after spending two days here. He is determined to proceed with the Commission for investigating the causes of the outbreak of the 11th inst., notwithstanding the withdrawal of the Consular Delegates. His resolve to punish the guilty is as firm as ever. Conversing to-day with an Egyptian gentleman of high standing, I found he had much to say that was worth hearing about the situation. His opinion, and it is that of most of the influential class he represents, is that matters have gone too far now to be settled by the mere expatriation of Arabi Pacha. Even if a dozen of his strongest and trustiest lieutenants were exiled with him, we would, he thought, be as far as ever from a solution of the problem. "There will," he remarked, "never be any hope of peace for Egypt till the Army is disbanded." It is not supported by Egyptian public opinion. The majority of the Notables and the better classes dislike the Army, and dread the Prætorian policy of Arabi. Its real backing comes from the lowest class, and the thoughtless fanatics who try to goad them into waging a Holy War." In reply to a question of mine, he said, "I have too high an opinion of the statesmanship of the Porte to believe that the Sultan will refuse to undertake the task of restoring the *status quo*. Bear in mind the true and permanent 'National Party' is represented not by Arabi, but Cherif Pacha. It favours gradual progress, not violent revolution."

The most alarming rumours, mostly false, continue to prevail, though doubtless the Military Party are going on with their preparations I know, for instance, from a sure source, that the citadel at Cairo is being stored with provisions sufficient to feed thirteen thousand men for three months. Recruiting is proceeding briskly. The Reserves are being called in.

Reports to the effect that the Bedouins are moving on the Canal, or that it is in danger of being blocked, are premature. Still, a feeling of great uncertainty prevails amongst Europeans who remain—a feeling which it is difficult to justify on positive or definite grounds. They are all convinced that at any moment the signal for a general massacre of Christians may be given. Soldiers continue to patrol the silent and half-empty streets, in which traffic has almost entirely ceased. It is represented now by an occasional carriage rumbling along, bearing to the harbour some frightened family of fugitives with their belongings. There are long dreary lines of deserted shops, which may prove an irresistible temptation to idle Arabs out of work. Nobody need be surprised if they sack them some of these days. Not more than twenty Englishmen remain ashore. They are lodged in the Eastern Telegraph Company's offices and in the premises of the Ottoman Bank, which they may be said to garrison.

The *Times* correspondent at Alexandria telegraphed on Thursday night:—

Among the emigrants this week are the harems of Hussein Pacha, brother of the Khedive, Fakri Pacha, Minister of Justice under Riaz, and Omar Lutfi, Governor of Alexandria.

At the Council to-day Arabi hinted that it might be advisable to sequestrate the property of refugees, probably meaning only Turks. The streets are deserted: every native must show a certificate that he is employed, otherwise he is taken as a soldier.

The Banque Générale, Sinadino and Ralli, and the Crédit Foncier have chartered the steamer *Royal Standard* at £30 per day and are transferring business to the harbour. The Crédit Lyonnais and Imperial Ottoman Bank have taken the steamer *Moedart* on the same terms for the same purpose. The railway, telegraphs, the Peninsular and Oriental, the Messageries, and private firms have all transferred business to the port. A garrison of telegraph clerks and newspaper correspondents still holds to the telegraph office, myself among the number, but practically the centre of the town is transferred to the harbour.

The Khedive is still ill with fever and an affection of the throat; the latter is hereditary and is probably only the natural result of his exertions at his reception.

The alarming rumours as to the Suez Canal being undermined are exaggerations, but large quantities of explosives have been forwarded to Ismailia. In spite of all assertions to the contrary, competent engineers who have passed their lives in connection with the Canal maintain that it could easily be rendered impassable.

Arabi this afternoon addressed the troops at the Arsenal. He said that invasion had often been threatened by Europe, but had come to nothing. Their eyes were closed then, but were opened now, and it was not of England alone that they were going to be afraid. He was calm and confident, but onlookers say that the tone of the Army could hardly have been assuring to him. My Arab informant said he looked serious too, and the soldiers seemed to be afraid that invasion was coming in earnest and that matters were getting beyond a joke. Personally, I do not believe in serious opposition, nor does any one who knows the soldiers; but they have improved so much lately, and the consequences of failure would be so terrible, that it would be folly to attempt anything without an irresistible force.

The *Daily Telegraph* correspondent at Alexandria sends the following despatch, dated Thursday night:—

Ragib and Arabi Pachas are to enrol in the army all people who have not got bread to eat. The Ministers will be glad of an excuse to get such recruits. A deputation waits on Ragib Pacha to-day in relation to the Alexandria water supply. The Egyptians say that Sir E. Malet's illness is exaggerated, so as to give an excuse for not having anything to do with the present Ministry. The panic among Europeans here last night proves to have been groundless. No one was seized.

I am now officially assured that Arabi Pacha has never been invited to go to Constantinople, and that he would not go if asked. The Ministry intends remaining here for some time, and Englishmen need not, therefore, remain at Cairo. The efforts to persuade the Khedive to leave Alexandria have also ceased.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Thursday.

The Lord Chancellor took his seat on the woolsack at a quarter past 4 o'clock.

The Entail (Scotland) Bill was committed *pro formâ*, with a view to the introduction of certain amendments moved by Lord Rosebery, who has charge of the measure.

Lord Limerick moved that all questions of which notice had been given by any peer holding, or who had held, any of the offices of Lord Chancellor, Lord President, Lord Privy Seal, First Lord of the Treasury, Secretary of State, or First Lord of the Admiralty, should take precedence of all other orders or notices. He thought it very desirable that notice of all questions should appear on the paper, but noble lords on the front benches were now deterred from giving notice of questions, because their notices, if for the day following that on which they were put down, would in all probability come after all the other business.

Lord Granville, on the ground that it would not be desirable to give precedence to any class of peers, advised the noble lord not to press his motion.

The motion was withdrawn.

Lord de L'Isle and Dudley asked the Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether it was true that Arabi Pacha had been decorated with the Grand Cordon of the Medjidie and had received a letter from the Sultan approving his conduct in the present Egyptian crisis.

Lord Granville replied that the Government had information of the bestowal of the decoration, but none of the letter of approval.

A number of Bills having been advanced a stage, their Lordships adjourned at 25 minutes past 5 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday.

The Speaker took the chair at 10 minutes to 4.

EGYPT.

Sir C. Dilke, in answer to Mr. Gibson, stated that the Government had taken steps to remove the misconception under which the French Government appeared to labour respecting the Joint Note. In a despatch to Lord Lyons Earl Granville repudiated the inferences drawn by M. Challemel-Lacour from the conversation which he held with his Excellency.

THE LATEST MURDERS IN IRELAND.

Sir W. Harcourt, in reply to a question from Mr. J. Lowther, read telegrams announcing that Mr. Blake, agent to the Marquis of Clanricarde, and Thady Keene, who was accompanying him in a car, had this day been shot dead near Loughrea. Mrs. Blake, on the car, escaped unhurt. The Home Secretary further stated, in answer to Mr. Plunket, that the rifles found after the murders of Mr. Bourke and Corporal Wallace bore the same marks as those which were upon the arms seized in Clerkenwell.

PREVENTION OF CRIME BILL.

On the order for Committee on the Prevention of Crime Bill, Mr. Gladstone intimated that the Government had arrived at the conclusion that, in order to hasten the progress of the measure, it might be necessary to have a prolonged sitting to-morrow. The House then went into Committee on the bill. Mr. Gibson moved an amendment to Clause 16 to leave out "person" and insert the words "business or property," the object of the amendment being to provide compensation to the victims of "Boycotting." The amendment was not accepted by the Government, and after a short discussion it was withdrawn. Another amendment by Mr. T. O'Connor to insert the word "otherwise" was negatived by 256 to 32. Several other amendments were proposed, some of which were negatived and others were not pressed. Sir W. Harcourt promised that words should be introduced, providing that the report on a claim for compensation should be in a prescribed form with the evidence appended to it. An amendment proposed by Mr. P. Martin that compensation should not be awarded in cases where there was reason to believe that material evidence had been withheld was opposed by the Government and negatived by 92 to 32. Mr. Sexton proposed an amendment which would have made compensation proportionate to the injury sustained, and Sir W. Harcourt observed that in a case of murder injury must not be measured by the amount of pecuniary loss which survivors would sustain from the death of a relative. Mr. Sexton, on the other hand, contended that no money could compensate for mental suffering, and, therefore, it ought not to be awarded. In the end the amendment was negatived by 146 to 26. An amendment by Mr. Sullivan to omit subsection 4 was, after a short discussion, negatived by 168 to 28. Mr. Sexton next proposed an amendment, having for its object to exempt districts which showed no sympathy with crime committed in them from any pecuniary imposition. After discussion, in the course of which Sir Stafford Northcote intervened in support of the Government, the amendment was rejected by a majority of 169. Mr. R. Power proposed an amendment limiting the amount to be levied to a sum not exceeding 1s. in the pound of the valuation of the district. The amendment was negatived by 177 against 33.

Some other amendments having been disposed of, the clause was added to the bill and progress was reported.

The House was counted out at 25 minutes past two o'clock.

Mysterious Murder in South London.—At Horselydown stairs on Wednesday evening some lightermen picked up the body of a man, who on being removed to the St. John's mortuary and stripped was found to have been stabbed in several places. In the pockets a number of letters and other property were found, by which the identity of the deceased has been established. From inquiries since made it appears that the deceased is a master builder named John Bone, residing at Maidstone. A fortnight ago he came to London on business, and has never been heard of since. Dr. Gittens, of Horselydown, examined the body directly after it was picked up in the Thames, and is of opinion that a foul murder has taken place.

GOVERNMENT POLICY IN EGYPT.

CONSERVATIVE MEETING.

We published yesterday a brief telegraphic summary of the proceedings at the Conservative meeting at Willis's Rooms on Thursday. We now give a fuller report of the speeches. The chair was taken by Mr. E. P. Bouverie, who was supported by the Marquis of Salisbury, Sir Stafford Northcote, the Duke of Northumberland, the Marquis of Hertford, the Marquis of Waterford, Lord Colville of Culross, Lord Manners, Baron H. de Worms, Sir J. D. Hay, the Duke of Sutherland, Lord Carnarvon, Viscount Barrington, Earl Manvers, Lord Claud Hamilton, Mr. Ritchie, M.P., Sir A. Borthwick, the Earl of Coventry, Mr. G. Elliott, M.P., Viscount Hardinge, Mr. J. Lowther, M.P., Colonel Makins, M.P., Mr. H. Balfour, M.P., Mr. Birkbeck, M.P., the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Galloway, Lord Ellenborough, Mr. Christopher Sykes, M.P., Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, M.P., the Hon. E. Stanhope, M.P., Sir R. Temple, Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., the Earl of Jersey, Mr. H. Chaplin, M.P., Mr. E. Eaton, Sir H. Holland, M.P., Mr. Tennant, Mr. Morgan Howard, Sir Heron Maxwell, Sir J. Elphinstone, and Sir H. D. Peek.

The Chairman said the best answer that could be given to a good deal of the criticism which had been launched at the heads of those who took an interest in that meeting, was the meeting itself. There were critics who liked to wait in order to see how the cat jumped, and if any of them were present they would have an opportunity of forming an opinion upon the subject very satisfactorily to themselves. There had certainly been an intense desire on the part of the public that there should be some expression of opinion by an independent portion of the British public on the great questions affecting Egypt. This was not a question of Whig, or Tory, or Radical, or Conservative; it was a question of our own country. It was a question of the prosperity, the greatness, and perhaps even the very existence of our country. He hoped that that meeting, like the bulk of their reasonable countrymen, felt that, above all, they were Englishmen before partisans. The importance of this question was beyond dispute. The great highway of England to the East, to Australia, and to China was a matter of vital importance to us, and even a child, looking at the map, would see that to keep that highway open and secure was most vital to the interests of the British Empire. There could be no doubt that a responsible Government charged with important negotiations was aware of secret arrangements, and knew details which, if they could not reveal them to the public, were at least essential to enable the public to form a right judgment at any time on the proper policy to be pursued. He had always held that view, and he held it still. Yet there were limits to that doctrine, and the limits were pretty well reached in regard to this question. Within the last week there had been preparations of a serious kind—preparations, at any rate of war, in contemplation. The same kind of preparation preceded the Crimean campaign, and we drifted into the greatest war we had seen in our time. He had been forcibly reminded of the description which was given of the Government by one jelly-fish administration. A jelly-fish had no backbone, no muscle, no independent action. It floated upon the tide, and was wafted whithersoever the current might direct it. If that was an accurate description, it behoved the people of England to try and infuse a little backbone into such an Administration (loud cheers).

Sir R. Temple, Bart., moved the first resolution, in these terms:—"That it is the duty of the Government not to consent to any settlement of Egyptian affairs which is inconsistent with the pledges given by her Majesty's Government, or with the traditional policy of England, or with the interests of the British Empire."

Mr. E. Stanhope, M.P., seconded the resolution.

The Marquis of Salisbury, on rising, was received with loud and continued cheers. After some introductory remarks he said:—Do not let me be told that this is a meeting of bondholders. If it were I should not, though desiring to extend to them every sympathy in my power, look upon it as a political issue. There are interests far more vital than those of any bondholders. There are not only the interests of English enterprise, capital, and industry in Egypt, the interests of our commerce, but the interests of our Indian Empire and the interests of our good name in every corner of the world. Now just see how this matter stands. A year ago all witnesses are agreed that the arrangements which had been made in Egypt were such as to produce an amount of happiness and prosperity among the Egyptian people, and an opening to industry, and industrious men such as Egypt had never seen before. It required nothing but vigilance, promptitude, and courage to maintain that state of things. Do not tell me, as I have seen it stated, that we are bound to act with the French Government. There was no such obligation. Certainly there was no such obligation handed down from the late Government. We were not bound to act with France a single inch beyond the line drawn by the British interests, but in co-operation with France I thoroughly believe we might have secured and maintained the property of Egypt and the great interests which we had to guard in that country. Then came the difficulty. A military revolt broke out. I shall not now discuss the responsibility for these things; the moment has hardly come for it, and I should detain you too long, and as there is other and more pressing matter to deal with it is sufficient now to say that this military revolt broke out, and its effect was a change of Ministry, which interfered to some extent with the satisfactory working of the arrangements which had already been made. At this point, the beginning of last January, comes a period specially interesting to us. The Government of England, together with the Government of France, addressed a Note to the Khedive, in which they informed him that they would confront any dangers that might threaten his power. That was the information which the Government of England, in a formal diplomatic Note, gave to the Khedive. At the same time, it is fair to say that the Government of England informed the Courts of Europe that they did not mean by that any promise of material support (laughter). What they did mean it is a problem of the utmost difficulty to discover. If any words meant fighting, I should have said these words meant it. They assured Turkey and the other Courts of Europe that they did not mean to extend any material support, but the important thing is that they did not inform the Khedive, who was the Viceroy, of this important limitation of the promise that they had made. Now, I am not dealing with this at present for the purpose of criticising the policy of that assurance, what I wish to draw your attention to is the promise which, in the name of England, has been made. Matters went on, and this Note produced no results. The complications were not repelled; the dangers were not confronted; the military power became more and more strong; the disorganization to industry became more and more serious, till at last, in the month of May, matters seemed to have come to a crisis. Again, the English Government, in conjunction with that of France, advanced to the rescue, with another Note. On this occasion they informed the Khedive that the then Prime Minister—Arabi—must be temporarily removed from Egypt, the Ministry must resign, and others of his colleagues must be sent into the interior, and in order to give the appearance—unhappily, it was a most fallacious appearance—of force to this they sent the fleet to the harbour at Alexandria, where we all know what happened. This new Note was treated with as much disregard as the old one. Arabi was not removed; the Ministry did not resign; the fleet in the waters of Alexandria were treated with absolute disregard, and disorder again increased, and it increased to that point that the whole fabric of English industry, which had been built up by the labour and skill of years, which it had required the confidence of years to construct, was swept away, and the European colony was hounded out of the country, Europeans were murdered in the streets of Alexandria under the guns of English ships, and shame it was that it should be said not only were the representatives of England wounded, but English officers were murdered, and the fleet never budged an inch (cries of "Shame.") Now, you will understand that this state of things is at least an example. That the massacre of English subjects can take place under the guns of the English fleet is a new thing in the history of England, and it is newer still to know that there should have been no mode of vindicating the outraged honour of the country, beyond referring the whole matter to a Conference at Constantinople. Well, now, it is that Conference which to my mind illustrates the humiliation which the present policy of her Majesty's Government brings upon us. I have never been able myself to discover, nor have I ever been able to hear that anyone else has discovered what object the Government could hope to obtain by the assembling of such a Conference. As you are well aware, the Treaties of Paris and Berlin were signed by seven Powers, and if these treaties have to be altered, it can only be done under the sanction of a Conference of those seven Powers, and if the object had been to effect an alteration of these matters I can quite understand that a Conference should have been assembled. But the Powers have not been consulted, for the one principally interested, Turkey, has been left out altogether, and the six Powers that have assembled have no more title to deal with the Treaties of Paris or Berlin than eleven jurymen would have to hang a criminal without the consent of the twelfth. The absolute consent of the seven Powers is necessary to any action that may be taken. Therefore, this Conference does not assemble for the purpose of modifying treaties. If it does not assemble to modify treaties, what has it got to do in this juncture? British interests are at stake. We can only be interested in two things—European treaties and the maintenance of British interests. European treaties are not in question, because there are not the seven Powers assembled. Then it is British interests that alone are in question. Are the British people prepared to submit British interests to the determination of the Powers that are assembled. I do not wish to say one word disrespectfully of those Powers. They are allies of England, and I trust they will remain so, but they are bound to have a different view of British interests from that which it is our duty to maintain; and we cannot without being unfaithful to the trust we hold consign to any other Powers, however much we may esteem them, the duty of determining on those British interests which are our province alone. Now, the question is, what will be the outcome of this Conference? That is a matter of anxiety; that is the point to which it appears to me the attention of the people of this country should be directed. You have heard of the enormous interests which are involved in the decision of the Egyptian Question, but there is something more, and something even more important than the enormous interests which are involved. There is the maintenance of British honour by the performance of British pledges (loud cheers). You have pledged yourselves to the present Viceroy of Egypt—you have promised to sustain him, you have induced him by your promise to face the anger of powerful sections of his own people, you have induced him to place himself in a position of unexampled danger, and you cannot, unless you are the meanest of mankind, abandon him to that danger. Well, then, you have sent into the Alexandrian waters a powerful fleet—the bearers of a note demanding that which England has resolved the exact fulfilment of—the removal of this military adventurer from supreme power in Egypt. You cannot recede from that demand without seriously, fatally, jeopardising your authority in the East. Remember what that authority is. The reputation of England is like confidence to a merchant or a bank. Our island is small, our basis of operations is distant, the material force which we keep constantly at our disposal is comparatively insignificant; but we rely on this—just as a merchant relies upon the confidence which his probity and his wealth inspire, and upon the multiplied operations which his comparatively small amount of resources enable him to undertake—so we, by the help of the reputation which our fathers have won, and which, happily, blunders cannot speedily destroy, are able to maintain an Empire and to exercise a power, though we do not hold on the spot, or at any one moment, the material resources necessary to enable us to enforce that power. You have ports in distant lands—in China and Japan. You stand opposite vast multitudes of civilised peoples. Do not mistake the position that you hold. The tolerance that they extend to you, the facilities that they give you, the safety that they secure to you, are not due to any high philanthropic impulse; they are not due to any millenial spread of peace among mankind. (Cheers.) They are not due even to an enlightened appreciation of the benefits of Free Trade. They are due simply to the fact that they believe you to be strong, and that you are capable of backing up your words by deeds. Look at what M. St. Hilaire called "the magnificent colony of England"—250,000,000 of Indians whom you rule. Do you imagine that you rule them entirely by love and confidence and emotions of that class? I do not doubt that you deserve it. I do not doubt that your Government is the most beneficent that that country has ever enjoyed, and I earnestly hope that it will always continue to be so. I believe that the most enlightened of the Indian population would deeply deplore that you should be driven from their land, but that does not interfere with the fact that with those vast millions of population your title to rule is the sharpness and readiness of your sword. Well, then, if that be the case, conceive what an effect such events as those which have taken place in Alexandria must have had upon their minds; conceive the effect which will be produced if it is known throughout the East that the Viceroy of Egypt, who abandoned himself to your counsels, and who in deference to your counsels opposed many of his subjects and allowed himself to be drawn into great danger, was abandoned to his fate. Conceive what the feeling will be if it is known that you laid down as an ultimatum, with all the solemnity of which international acts are capable, that Arabi Bey was to be removed from power, and ultimately that Arabi Bey should dictate terms which you would be willing to accept. If this particular position is constantly happening throughout the East to men in power, who give themselves up to you and whom you support, who are identified with your fortunes and who depend upon your strength, and with men, on the other hand, to whom you announce your enmity and your opposition—if it is once known that when you promise your support it means that you are going to abandon, in the hour of danger, the men to whom you promise it; if it is once known that, when you announce your opposition, your enmity, to a particular soldier, it means that you are prepared, if events should press, to accept any terms at his hands, that it may be convenient for him to offer—if that is once known, believe me you have commenced to descend the inclined plane which leads from surprise to contempt. Now, that is the reason why I think that an expression of opinion at this time is important, and why I entreat on all occasions to do what you can to bring the opinion of the people—the only resource that we have left—to bear upon the counsels of the Ministry. Twenty-eight years ago, when the Ministry seemed to betray the honour of Great Britain, and when it had a powerful majority in the House of Commons, led, I think, by the present Prime Minister, the House of Commons did not shrink from turning out the Government and substituting another Liberal Ministry for that which had betrayed its trust. But do not hope for any such issue now. The independence of the House of Commons is not what it was at that period. (Loud cheers.) It is to the people, and to the people alone, we must look, and that is why I venture to appear on this platform to-day.

The resolution was carried unanimously, amid loud cheers.

Mr. Chaplin moved the next resolution: "That this meeting desires to impress upon her Majesty's Government the great importance of making effectual provision for the security of the lives and property of British subjects in Egypt." (Cheers.)

Mr. E. Easton, C.E., seconded the resolution.

Sir Stafford Northcote, M.P., who was received with cheers, in the course of his speech said: You have had the doctrine laid down that to speak of British interests is to use the language of mere selfishness, and that you have rather to consider the rights of other nations and the position which they ought to occupy, aad desire to occupy, in the world. Well, what are you to take as the voice of a people like the Egyptian people? Are you to take the voice of the first adventurer who raises a military power in order to restrain and overawe and disturb the Government of a country, or are you rather to listen to the words of sense and of truth which you hear from those who are responsible for the administration of Egypt? It is all very well to say that the interests we have in that country are the interests of a few bondholders, and that the bondholders ought to take care of themselves. It is utterly untrue to put the matter in that light. (Cheers.) We who are speaking of the material interests of England are not thinking of the bondholders; we are thinking of that great dominion which we possess in India; we are thinking of the great interests which we possess all over the world; and we know that if we allow our rights to be trampled upon, our subjects to be insulted, their property to be confiscated, and the lives even of our officers and seamen to be rendered insecure—if we stand tamely by and allow such things to happen, the mischief will not be confined to the particular spot where these things occur. We know very well that if it once comes to be believed that England is too tame, or too indifferent, or too satisfied with her own prosperity at home to care about those of her sons who go abroad, the sun of England will indeed have begun to set, and it will not be long before you are left in entire gloom. It is not our desire now to raise a question as between us and the Government; but I cannot help pointing out to you how very largely they are responsible for the misuse which they have made of the opportunities they have had of settling the question which has now become so important. More than once in the correspondence they have laid before us you can see that there were opportunities which, if they had chosen, they might have used for putting a stop to the growing mischief. If they had spoken early and with determination; if, above all, they had spoken with a resolution that what they said they were going to do they would do, do it without caring whether any other nation approved or disapproved, then I believe the mischiefs which have arisen would never have attained their present magnitude. (Hear, hear.) Or had they even taken the contrary course, and said "We mean to do nothing at all, we mean to leave you to your own devices, we have no business here, and we mean to take no part here," even if they had taken such a course as that, unsatisfactory as it would have been, reprobated as I believe it would have been by our party, still it would have given less cause of complaint to those who have suffered by their action. They would then have taken up a position which would have been well understood, and to which we could have accommodated ourselves, and they could still have maintained among those who belong to the peace-at-any-price party a reputation for consistency. (Laughter.) As it is, they have placed themselves in a false position, such a false position that it is impossible for them to come out of it without a considerable amount of difficulty, and let us only pray that they may be content with coming out of it with some discredit to themselves, and that they will endeavour to come of it without injury to the honour and good faith of the country. (Cheers.) They have made difficult in every possible way every means that could be employed for the solution of the question which has arisen. They have neglected to avail themselves of the assistance that was offered by the Sultan; they have insulted the Sultan. They have made the smallest possible use of those means which were presented to them, and which you will find in the correspondence laid before us were offered to them on the part of the Sovereign of the Khedive. At the same time they have encouraged the Khedive to go forward in confidence that he would be supported by the power of England and France, and especially of England; and now, having acted with the most perfect loyalty and good faith, and with an amount of courage for which few were prepared, he has found himself left in a position, or threatened to be left in a position, of the greatest difficulty, to the utter shame, I venture to say, of the councils of England. The time is coming when we shall have to go through these matters carefully, and to bring our charges against the Government. These matters will then be fully discussed; but at the present moment it is most important that our voices should be raised in order to prevent further mischief being done. The Conference is still sitting, and we are therefore not surprised at being told by the Government of the day that their lips are sealed, and that it is impossible they should say anything to us until that Conference is closed. But although their lips may be sealed, and although it may be impossible for us while their lips are sealed to enter into a full discussion of the matter, it is not too late for us—on the contrary, it seems to me to be the proper time for us and for England—to speak, and to tell them what it is that we look to them to do. The time may soon come when that will be too late. The time now is when it is our duty to speak out, and it is, I think, with no hesitating voice that this meeting pronounces the duty which lies upon the Government as expressed in the resolution now submitted. (Loud cheers.)

The resolution was then put and carried.

The meeting soon afterwards separated.

Lord Randolph Churchill, writing to the *Standard* says:—I venture to think that a meeting of a few hundred individuals (the majority of whom will probably be bondholders) selected by the authorities of Stafford House (that birthplace of so many political, philosophic, and scientific abortions), presided over by "an old Whig," is scarcely the channel through which Lord Beaconsfield would have communicated to the people of England his opinions on a momentous foreign crisis. It will be remembered that severe censure was passed upon the present Prime Minister for having attended and addressed *bonâ fide* public meetings during the sitting of a former Conference at Constantinople, which censure, however just, may be qualified by the consideration that Parliament was not in session at the time, neither was Mr. Gladstone leader of the Liberal party. But what are we to think of the leaders of the Tory party who, while the Conference on Egyptian affairs is meeting, while Parliament is in session, select a hole-and-corner gathering in "Willis's

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, JULY 3—4, 1882.

THE SITUATION.

England, having plainly declared what is necessary to the security of her own vital interests in Egypt, will neither waver nor hesitate in giving full effect to her policy. It is in no aggressive spirit that we shall act, if we are called upon to act. It may even be admitted that an expedition of English troops for the purpose of intervening in the affairs of a foreign land invites criticism and requires defence. But the main lines of the defence of such a policy have been clearly indicated by the Ministers specially responsible for them, by Mr. Gladstone himself, by Lord Granville and Sir Charles Dilke, and the country has approved them. About the Suez Canal and its relation to the national interests there is practically no dispute. To this primary ground of intervention must be added the pledges repeatedly given to Tewfik, the anarchy which at present prevails in Egypt, and the total destruction of all European interests in the country. It may be argued of course—indeed, it has been argued—that England has nothing to do with the domestic affairs of Egypt, and that if the Egyptians prefer a military despotism tending to anarchy, that is no concern of ours. It is sufficient, perhaps, to reply that there is no sort of evidence to show that the Egyptians prefer anything of the kind. On the contrary, the real interests of Egypt would be far safer under a return to the *status quo*—which is all that England has ever demanded or is likely to enforce—than they have ever been under Arabi and his creatures. It is easy for the present Ministry, that is for Arabi himself, to declare that life and property are safe in Egypt and that the European community has nothing to fear. The European community is undoubtedly the best judge in the matter, and its judgment has been pronounced by its almost universal exodus. Thousands upon thousands of Europeans, Levantines included, men who are half Orientals and accustomed to the ordinary instability of affairs in the East, have sacrificed their all and fled from the country. The few who remain transact the little business that is left, not on Egyptian soil, but from vessels in the harbour of Alexandria. The whole apparatus of civilisation and progress throughout the country is either destroyed or brought to a standstill. Even at the best it will take months, or rather years, to repair the ravages wrought by the last few disastrous weeks. It is as clear as it can be that if Arabi is allowed to prevail, the country must go from bad to worse, and no European interest in it, not even the Canal itself, will be safe. This is the situation with which England has to deal. If she has to deal with it alone, she is prepared to do so. But by her deference to the wishes of France and by her readiness to seek a European sanction for her action she has shown that she has no isolated interests to pursue and no aggressive purposes to serve.—*Times*.

CETEWAYO'S VISIT.

The brief debate in the House of Lords on Cetewayo's visit to England will confirm the great majority of the public in the favourable opinion concerning the policy of the Government which they have lately expressed. The position of the Government, as described by Lord Kimberley, is absolutely unassailable. Cetewayo is not, as some of his detractors appear to suppose, a convicted criminal. On the contrary, he is, as Lord Kimberley points out, a captive whose dethronement was caused by a war which her Majesty's Ministers regard as having been both unjust and unnecessary. Sir Garnet Wolseley's settlement of Zululand has broken down. The country has relapsed into a state of anarchy, and the time has now come when it is absolutely necessary, in the interest of peace and order, that the Zulu Government should be reconstituted on a new basis. Everyone who has followed the course of events in Zululand, especially during the last twelve months, will agree with Lord Kimberley when he says that the welfare of the country imperatively requires that the Zulus should be placed under some stronger authority than that of the thirteen kinglets. The question then arises whether the country shall be annexed to the British possessions in South Africa, or whether the only native ruler whom the Zulus are prepared to recognize shall be set up again. Lord Kimberley states that the Government will come to a conclusion on this subject when they have received Sir Henry Bulwer's report. In the meanwhile, if they decide to restore Cetewayo, it will be a great advantage that they should be in personal communication with him, and that he should have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the power and resources of England. Lord Carnarvon, in opposing this act of justice, described Cetewayo as a monster of cruelty. Lord Granville, with great force, contrasted Lord Carnarvon's very exaggerated estimate of the bad qualities of the ex-King with the fact that the Zulu nation have clung to him through his long captivity with unaltering devotion. But Lord Carnarvon, who has not hesitated to support a war, the responsibility for which the leaders of his own party have again and again repudiated, should remember that most of the accusations against Cetewayo which he accepts as true were founded upon mere hearsay, and that whenever it was possible to test them by the laws of evidence they were either refuted or assumed a much milder complexion than was originally imparted to them. Lord Chelmsford says that if Cetewayo's Prime Minister were removed from the country Zululand would at once settle down; but who is to undertake the removal of this powerful individual? Lord Chelmsford's policy would unquestionably involve a renewal of the Zulu war, and we feel sure that the country is by no means so enamoured with either the military achievements or the political results of that war as to be willing to incur the slightest risk of its recurrence.—*Daily News*.

THE CRISIS IN EGYPT.

The Alexandria correspondent of the *Times* telegraphed on Monday:—

To-day is the Sultan's *fête*. Last night all the Turkish ships were illuminated. To-day every ship, except the Spanish, was gaily dressed with flags, and at noon a salute was fired from the different fleets, consisting of 32 vessels. The English ships are 14 in number—the *Inflexible, Alexandra, Téméraire, Sultan, Superb, Invincible, Monarch, Iris, Bittern, Condor, Decoy, Beacon, Cygnet*, and *Helicon*. The French vessels number six, of which three are ironclads; the American three, the Russian two, the Greek two, and the Italian, Austrian, German, Dutch, and Spanish one each. The Khedive is better, and received to-day the new French Consul-General, as well as the German and Austrian representatives.

Speaking to-day to a Turk, from whom I have before quoted, and who, I believe, is extremely well informed as regards Stamboul Palace politics, he said:—"Let me beg you to give this warning, in the most emphatic manner you can employ. Stake your reputation upon its truth, and if it be attempted to disprove it give my name, and I will give you proof under an authority which the Sultan will not deny. Every Turkish soldier that lands in Egypt—be the guarantee of Turkey what it may—will be within a month the ally of the Egyptian Military party, and will be opposed to European interference in Egypt in a far more efficacious fashion than Arabi or the whole party now in Egypt are. The day that such troops are sighted I leave behind me Egypt, Turkey, and the East, convinced that it can only result in a European war which will terminate with the existence of Turkey."

In conversation to-day Arabi described the present position as being due to riots which were commenced by a Maltese. After these riots the Government had assured all the Powers that life and property should be protected. The other Powers had appeared to accept this assurance, but England and France did not choose to consider it satisfactory. Egypt did not desire war, but, if attacked, she was bound to defend herself. Still this need not create panic or interfere with business. If England and France declared war their subjects would be requested to leave the country, but the subjects of other Powers might remain as before. War would not prevent the crops from ripening, and foreign subjects should receive ample protection. Arabi showed himself what I have always deemed him—a simple fellah, of very small intelligence, labouring under the impression that he was supported by an omnipotent Sultan, and without the smallest notion as to the relative powers of Europe, Turkey, and Egypt. For the accommodation of English refugees during the two days' absence of the Peninsular and Oriental steamer, Admiral Seymour has applied to the Austrian-Lloyd's agent, who has placed the steamer *Selene* at his disposal. The refugees will have to pay for their board.

Later.

In consequence of the representations in the *Times*, the Peninsular steamer *Kashgar* is ordered to remain here till the arrival of the *Tanjore*. Lest there should be any misunderstanding as to the purport of my previous telegram, I desire to say that no blame attaches to any of the authorities here. All of them, and particularly the Company's agents, were anxious that accommodation should be provided on board the Company's steamers, and to their hospitality to refugees we are all desirous of testifying. The absence of a permanent mail steamer for this purpose is, I think, an error, for which, I presume, the Company must bear the blame. The fact that the actual mail steamer was not delayed to repair this error was doubtless owing to instructions from the Post Office. Without attempting to apportion the blame, I could only point out the lamentable consequences which might ensue; and I would now express the satisfaction felt here that they have been so promptly provided against.

The correspondent of the *Standard* at Alexandria telegraphs, under date Monday night:—

I have no sympathy with alarmists; but I am now forced to admit that they have a good deal to say for themselves. Apart altogether from the ordinary risk which one runs by living here amongst a population so hostile to us as the natives have been for the last few weeks, there is another grave peril threatening us. It is now impossible to ignore the fact that at any moment a conflict may occur between the English war ships and the forts. The strong deterring influence exercised over Sir B. Seymour by the presence of English families is gone. There are not more than a couple of dozen genuine Englishmen in the town, and they can defend themselves until rescued by the Fleet.

Both sides—the Egyptian soldiery and the officers and men under Sir B. Seymour—are regarding each other suspiciously. Both are making preparations for fighting of the most provoking character. The Egyptians are rousing the feeling of the Fleet to a pitch of high tension by ostentatiously pushing on the fortifications. The English war ships, in turn, stimulate the anger of the Egyptian soldiers by showing that they, too, are prepared and eager for the fray. The slightest accident or indiscretion on either side will precipitate a sanguinary conflict.

The prevailing opinion I find now is that the Egyptian difficulty cannot be got over by anything but military intervention by England, and it is hoped the Conference will bow to the inevitable and recognise this fact. If that be impossible, it is hoped that Europe will delegate to some combination of the Great Powers—England, probably, in alliance with Italy, if France sulks over the business—the duty of undertaking the temporary occupation of Egypt. Another view common here is that, now the European exodus has drained Alexandria of European settlers, a fight between the troops and the Fleet would be rather a good thing. The great bulk of the Egyptian army is concentrated at Alexandria, and if it could be scattered by the Fleet, the victory would herald the dawn of peace for Egypt. After the *fiasco* of the attempt at independent bargaining with Arabi, which made the German and Austrian Consuls General look a little foolish, no one now believes in anything as a remedy for the reign of misrule which is ruining the country save the landing of English sailors and soldiers.

The question is often asked—What chance has a small English force of winning if it has to face a great National Army of fanatics? The answer is that the Egyptian army is numerous rather than formidable. An American officer of experience, who recently led Egyptian soldiers in Abyssinia and Upper Egypt, tells me that after having them under his eyes for ten years, he is certain that three thousand English soldiers and sailors would scatter the whole Egyptian army like chaff before the wind. He thinks the English and French force now in port could capture Alexandria with the utmost ease.

The Ministry have again held an anxious meeting for the purpose of discussing the question whether it is prudent to go on with the fortifications. They consulted Dervish on the subject, and his reply was that military preparations of all kinds must be stopped. Upon this Arabi wanted to know if the Sultan would guarantee them against a sudden attack from the British Admiral. If so, then he (Arabi) and his friends would obey the Sultan's commands. Upon this and other matters, it is rumoured that serious differences of opinion separate Arabi from Dervish. The rumour is one that is beginning to be believed in by the natives.

There are not a few Nationalists who say that they consider the recall of Dervish desirable. Many of them profess to know that it is inevitable, and that a new Envoy from the Sultan will one of these days take his place. They are, they say, going to send to the Sultan a protest, appealing for aid, or at least for a few troops to enable them to hold against the infidel Powers of the West a valuable province of the Caliph's dominion.

Dervish's attempt to get the Ministers to let Turkish troops land as the bailiffs of the Western Powers has failed, although here and at Cairo he has alternately cajoled and menaced. Thus the position of Turkey is very uncomfortable. She has lost completely her chance of intervening actively.

The Nationalist party are very angry at the bestowal of a decoration on Sultan Pacha. They dislike seeing him put on as high a level as Arabi.

The Nationalists, while quite willing to obey the Sultan, as the head of their Faith, do not conceal their determination to resist his active interference on behalf of Europe in the affairs of their country. They say they will never permit Egypt to sink to the miserable condition of a Turkish Pachalik, though they are quite willing to accept the help of the Turks to drive the Europeans out of the country. In this matter of Turkish intervention they profess to have the support of France and the Great Powers, though why they should think that they are particularly anxious to make Egypt another Oriental Roumelia is not apparent.

The *Daily Telegraph* has received the following despatch from its correspondent in Egypt:—

Suez, Monday Night.

I left Port Said on Saturday at midday, Captain Reid, of the Anchor Line steamer *Armenia*, kindly offering to convey me the whole length of the Canal to Suez. Only a small English gunboat, the *Coquette*, is left at Port Said. The inhabitants there are somewhat nervous at the possibility of an attack by the natives on Europeans. I found that a large number of the natives had gone to Damietta, where they were assembling, evidently for no good purpose. Their ultimate descent on Port Said is feared. The cutting of the water-pipes between Ismailia and Port Said is also much dreaded, as in that case there would be great difficulty in obtaining water. Should English troops land, the ships must be prepared to condense every drop that may be required.

I saw no troops on the banks of the Canal, but I observed that the native barges previously referred to had been moved further up the Canal, nearer Port Said. The Egyptian authorities had apparently come to know that they were watched. We passed El Inisr yesterday at midday. The banks there are very high, and the channel narrow. Thence we went through Ismailia Lake to Toussoum, where also the channel is narrow and the banks high. The Canal there might be easily blocked. Going thence past Serapeum I found the banks forty feet high, with again a narrow channel. Next we entered the Bitter Lake, passed Shalouf and Guilleaume, the banks at both places being steep and the channel narrow, and reached Suez to-day.

On the way between Port Said and Ismailia I observed repeatedly the water-pipes lying exposed, so that anybody might have cut them. There were but few Bedouins about, but the Canal needs careful watching by English gunboats. In addition to those already stationed here, gunboats should be sent to Shalouf and Guilleaume, such vessels carrying artificers to repair quickly any damage that might be done. No stone barges whatever—not even under the pretence of repairing the Canal banks—should be allowed to enter the passage, and a strict watch should be kept on all vessels approaching from the Suez end of the Canal.

M. DE LESSEPS ON THE EGYPTIAN QUESTION.

M. de Lesseps received a deputation from the International Arbitration Peace Association on Monday for the purpose of conferring with them on the best means of securing the neutrality of the Panama and Suez Canals. With reference to the Suez Canal, M. Lesseps deprecated any attempt on the part of England to disembark troops in Egypt, or to make a naval demonstration at the mouth of the Canal, on the pretence that the security of the Canal was in danger. He was assured by his son and other officials connected with his administration in Egypt that there was no fear for attack on the Canal by the people of Egypt. He had also received the strongest assurances to that effect in telegrams forwarded to him on the 26th ult. by Ragheb Pacha and the Viceroy of Egypt. He had for many years been in constant communication with Ragheb Pacha with reference to the affairs of the Canal, and had every confidence in his judgment and good faith. What was most to be feared was any military intervention which would alarm the Egyptians. The latter were making efforts to establish in some degree their national independence with Arabi Pacha at the head. Therefore, the English and French nations should be the last to crush their legitimate efforts. He regretted the interference of these nations with the internal administration of Egypt, which had created great irritation among the whole people. He had found Arabi Pacha to be perfectly reasonable in his views. He had the confidence of his people in his efforts to bring about the independence of Egypt and the Turkish rule. The assembling of Notables was the first step in the direction of independence, and ought to be recognised. Any attack upon Egypt by England or any other Power would be the destruction of the Canal. It was in no other danger whatever, for it was sufficiently protected by the officials of the Canal Company and by the agency of ships. Any naval demonstration at Port Said would probably be fatal, and would ruin English commerce, besides causing an act of injustice to the whole world. Moreover he had the greatest fear lest any isolated action on the part of England might lead to the rupture with France—a calamity the extent of which could not be exaggerated. He had already stated these views to the members of their Government, and he felt that the moment was most critical. He congratulated the deputation upon the formation of their association, and urged them to put themselves at once in communication with allied societies in France, in order that public opinion on both sides of the Channel might be aroused against military and naval invasion of the rights of the Egyptian people.—The deputation was introduced by Mr. Hodgson Pratt, chairman of the executive committee, and consisted of Major de Winton, Robert A. Maclean, John Holden, Martin Wood, the Rev. G. W. M'Cree, and Lewis Appleton, secretary. M. de Lesseps and General Turr subsequently visited Stafford House, where the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland entertained them, together with the Duc de Fitzjames, M. Charles de Lesseps, Baron and Baroness Erlanger, M. Piat, M. Fuchs, and Mr. Cyrus Field. After luncheon the Duke of Sutherland showed his visitors the electric light as experimented in the ballroom, and while coffee was being served in the music-room Mr. Crampton explained to the guests his boring machine, by means of which the excavated matter is dissolved before being brought to the surface.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday.

The House met at 4 o'clock, when the Royal Assent was given by Commission to the Customs and Inland Revenue Buildings (Ireland) Act, Poor Rate Assessment and Collection Act, 1869, Amendment Act; Public Schools (Scotland) Teachers Act, Interments (Felo de Se) Act, and a large number of private Acts. The Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, Lord Monson, and Lord Carrington.

Lord Cadogan condemned the proposal to bring Cetewayo on a visit to England. Lord Kimberley maintained that as the Zulu war was unjust, it would be unfair to refuse Cetewayo's request, and that it would be desirable he should become acquainted with the power and resources of England. He added that when the Government had received a report from Sir H. Bulwer, they would come to some definite conclusion with regard to the changes to be made in Zululand. Lord Carnarvon did not see how Cetewayo could be restored to his former position without a gross breach of faith towards the chiefs who were invested with authority under Sir G. Wolseley's settlement. Lord Granville admitted the difficulties of the position, and Lord Chelmsford urged that if Cetewayo were replaced he would again resort to his oppressive military system.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

The Speaker took the chair shortly before four o'clock.

SUSPENSION OF THE IRISH MEMBERS.

After a large number of questions had been put and answered, attention was largely engaged upon matters arising out of the proceedings in the somewhat exciting all-night sitting. Mr. Callan first asked the Chairman of Ways and Means whether he had supplied to certain newspapers an editorial paragraph stating that the suspension of 16 Irish members was based on their conduct during 19 nights of debate on the Crime Prevention Bill. The Chairman answered in the negative.

In answer to questions from Mr. Labouchere and Sir H. Wolff, the Speaker said the Chairman of Committees was entitled by immemorial practice to invite another member to take the chair in his place and exercise his authority. He was not aware of any occasion when the Chairman of Ways and Means had voted in Committee, but he could not say that he was not entitled to do so. The Speaker himself was so entitled. The last question grew out of the fact that Mr. Playfair had voted once on Saturday, according to the division list, but had stated that he had no recollection of the circumstance. In answer to Mr. Onslow, the Speaker said that a combination for obstructing business came, in his opinion, within the standing order of the 31st of January, 1881.

The conduct of Mr. O'Donnell on Saturday towards the Chairman was brought forward by Mr. Gladstone, who, before making any motion, invited Mr. O'Donnell to offer any explanation he might desire as to the epithets he had used. This the hon. member declined to do, stating he would wait to hear the accusation that was to be preferred against him. Mr. Gladstone said that the records of the House, showing that the member for Dungarvan had stigmatised the action of the Chairman as "an infamy," sufficiently indicated the nature of the grave charge which had to be met. He moved that Mr. O'Donnell be suspended from the service of the House for 14 days for his misconduct towards the Chair. Mr. O'Donnell denied the accuracy of the words imputed to him, but admitted that in his "apostrophe to the Chair" there might have been some irregularity. Having been absent from the House the whole of Friday night, he thought he had been unjustly and unfairly suspended, and in including him in his list of the 16 the Chairman had "sinned against all the traditions of his office." By those traditions every member supposed to be transgressing the rules of order was entitled to be fully and fairly warned by the Chair before any penal proceeding was taken against him. In asserting, as he did on Saturday under provocation, that he had been "foully" suspended, he meant to express his firm conviction that no English or Scotch member would have been treated as he, as an Irish member, had been. He then went on, in some detail, amid occasional manifestations of impatience, to show that his slight and rare contributions to the debates on the Crimes Bill did not justify the Chairman in designating him as a systematic obstructor. The Speaker, interposing, reminded him, more than once, that he was drawing very largely on the indulgence of the House, the question now before which was not the conduct of the Chairman, but the hon. member's own conduct. Mr. O'Donnell then alleged that the Chairman had not acted upon the "false and feloniously misleading" reports made to him as to what had occurred in his absence. This eliciting loud cries of "Order" and another interposition from the Chair, Mr. O'Donnell explained that he attributed the false reports in question to the Government, who had been the cowardly inciters of the tyranny practised against Irish members. Mr. O'Donnell, having then withdrawn, in obedience to the order of the Speaker, while his conduct was being considered,

Mr. Playfair explained that the responsibility for what had occurred in connexion with the suspension of the 16 members rested with him exclusively. He had not mentioned his intentions in the matter to any of the Ministers, nor had he acted on any reports made to him by others. He had felt it his painful duty to the House to "name" the 16 members upon clear evidence that obstruction was increasing; and he regretted to have had to report to the House insulting language used, no doubt, in heat.

Mr. Labouchere, wishing to temper justice with mercy, moved as an amendment, that, the Chairman of Committees having named Mr. O'Donnell for obstructing the business of Parliament, he having been absent during the greater portion of the sitting when the offence was committed, and not having received any warning from the Chair, the House is not prepared to take notice of the language imputed to him, and passes to the other orders of the day. Mr. Callan seconded the amendment; but, on objection taken by Mr. Gladstone, the Speaker pronounced it irregular.

After some remarks from Mr. Gorst,

Sir S. Northcote expressed regret that Mr. O'Donnell had not availed himself of the opportunity of making a statement or offering an apology before the House proceeded to consider the case. In his speech that night the hon. member had to some extent altered the charge against him, and now said that the words "it is an infamy" applied not to the Chairman himself, but to those who had misled him. The offensive expression had, however, been neither retracted nor apologised for; the language used was such as the House could not allow to pass without serious notice, especially considering the necessity of supporting the authority of its presiding officers.

Mr. Cowen moved, as an amendment, that the House declines to express an opinion on Mr. O'Donnell's language, and therefore passes to the next order of the day.

Sir J. Hay supported this amendment, believing that Mr. O'Donnell had used the objectionable epithets "interjectionally" and had not meant to apply them to the Chair.

Mr. Parnell and Mr. Healy opposed the motion, urging that until the House had had the opportunity of expressing its opinion on the grounds of the suspension, it ought to withhold its judgment on Mr. O'Donnell.

On a division, the amendment was rejected by 199 to 35, and Mr. Gladstone's original motion carried by 181 to 33.

PUBLIC BUSINESS.

Mr. Gladstone afterwards moved, in accordance with the notice given on Saturday, that the resolution of February 3, 1881, relating to urgency in the business of the House, be revived, supporting it on the ground that 23 days had been occupied by the Committee on the Crime Prevention Bill, that it was extremely necessary to get on with other business, especially the Arrears Bill, and also because of the terrible state of Ireland.

Mr. Parnell moved an amendment for dispensing with the necessity of a three-fourths majority in order to create a state of urgency. It would, he thought, be very difficult for the Government to obtain urgency on that condition in favour of the Arrears Bill.

Sir S. Northcote, while ready to support the motion of the Prime Minister, expressed a hope that care would be taken to preserve to the House due facilities for the discussion of any important questions of foreign or domestic policy which might arise.

A short discussion followed, in the course of which Mr. O'Connor Power passed some strictures upon the Government for not making their present demand in time, and trusted that urgency would be applied to the Arrears Bill as well as to their coercive legislation.

Mr. Bright remarked that Irish members opposite had not lately shown themselves very eager to expedite business. The Government, he added, could not in fairness agree to the amendment.

The amendment was rejected by 184 to 41. The discussion was renewed on an amendment by Lord Percy for confining urgency to the Crimes Bill, which was negatived, and Mr. Gladstone's original resolution was carried by 259 to 31. The second resolution (declaring the state of public business urgent) was reserved for the Morning Sitting to-day.

CRIMES PREVENTION BILL.

The House then went into Committee on the Crimes Prevention Bill, Sir F. Herschell in the Chair, and on the Attorney-General for Ireland moving a new clause, in substitution for Clause 19, relating to summary procedure, Mr. R. Power moved that progress be reported, on the ground that the suspended Irish members had had no opportunity of putting down amendments. After some discussion, in which Mr. Parnell, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, and Mr. Healy took part, the motion was rejected by 269 to 26. This was immediately followed by a motion from Mr. Healy that the Chairman leave the Chair. After some conversation Sir W. Harcourt offered to put off the new clauses till the report which he proposed in that case should be taken on Thursday, expecting to have the bill read a third time this week. This suggestion not being accepted by the Irish members, the motion that the Chairman leave the Chair was pressed to a division, and thrown out by 184 to 22. Mr. Metge immediately renewed the motion to report progress, against the advice of Mr. Parnell. Mr. Gladstone gave way, and the further consideration of the bill was adjourned.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the House was counted out at 25 minutes to 2 o'clock.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

Windsor Castle, July 3.

The Queen held an Investiture to-day at Windsor Castle. Her Majesty, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Albany, and their Grand Ducal Highnesses the Princesses Elizabeth and Irene of Hesse, proceeded to the White Drawing Room at 3 o'clock. Sir Albert Woods, Garter, presented to her Majesty the various insignia in the following order:

ORDER OF THE BATH.

General Sir Charles Henry Ellice was introduced into the presence of the Sovereign by the Lord Chamberlain, attended by the registrar and secretary to the Order, carrying the insignia, when the Queen, assisted by Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, K.G., invested him with the Riband and Badge of the Military Division of the First Class (by placing the Riband over the right shoulder obliquely to the left side), and delivered to him the star of his dignity in the Order. The following Knights Commanders were then introduced into the presence of the Sovereign by the Lord Chamberlain, who conferred upon them the honour of knighthood, and invested them with the insignia of the Civil Division of the Second Class of the Order, viz.: James Caird, Esq., Senior Copyhold, Inclosure, and Tithe Commissioner. Ralph Wood Thompson, Esq., Under-Secretary of State for the War Department. George Kettelby Rickards, Esq., late Counsel to the Speaker of the House of Commons.

ORDER OF THE STAR OF INDIA.

Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver Beauchamp Coventry St. John, R.E., was also introduced by the Lord Chamberlain, received the honour of knighthood, and was invested by her Majesty with the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Order.

ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL AND ST. GEORGE.

The following Knights Commanders were introduced, received the honour of knighthood, and invested by the Queen with the insignia of the Second Class of the Order, viz.: William Brampton Gurdon, Esq., Colonel William Bellairs, Saul Samuel, Esq., Agent-General for New South Wales.

ORDER OF THE BATH.

After which the undermentioned Companions were introduced, and received from the Sovereign their respective decorations in the Military and Civil Divisions of the Third Class of the Order, viz.:

MILITARY DIVISION.

Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Tyndall, Deputy Surgeon General James Arthur Hanbury. Colonel Charles Edward Cumberland, Lieutenant-Colonel Cromer Ashburnham, Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Augustus Bushman.

CIVIL DIVISION.

Robert George Wyndham Herbert, Esq., Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies; Charles Lennox Peel, Esq., Clerk of the Council; Colonel Thomas Inglis, R.E.; Henry Jenkyns, Esq., Assistant Parliamentary Counsel.

ORDER OF THE STAR OF INDIA.

Mr. Edward Francis Harrison, formerly Comptroller-General at Calcutta, was introduced, and received from her Majesty the Queen the decoration of a Companion of the Order.

ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL AND ST. GEORGE.

The undermentioned Companions were introduced, and received from the Sovereign the badge of the Third Class of the Order, viz.: Montague Frederick Ommanney, Esq., one of the Crown Agents for the Colonies; William Turner Thiselton-Dyer, Esq., Assistant Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Victor Alexander Williamson, Esq. A Guard of Honour of the 2nd Scots Guards was mounted in the Quadrangle of the Castle, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel A. Paget. Luncheon was served in the dining room. Levee dress was worn.

The marriage of the Earl of March, M.P. for West Sussex, with Miss Isabel Sophie Craven, second daughter of Mr. Wm. Geo. Craven, took place by special licence at the Chapel Royal, Savoy, on Monday afternoon. The ceremony was appointed for three o'clock, but long before that hour the chapel was filled with a distinguished congregation of relatives and friends of both families. Princess Mary Adelaide Duchess and the Duke of Teck, arrived shortly before three; and there were present, among others, the Duke and Duchess of Richmond and Gordon and Lady Caroline Gordon Lennox, the Duke and Duchess of Abercorn, the Duke and Duchess of Athole, the Duke of Hamilton, the Marquis and Marchioness of Waterford, the Marquis of Downshire, Maria Marchioness of Ailesbury, the Earl and Countess Sydney, the Countess Craven, etc. The Earl of March was accompanied by Mr. Bertie Balfour. The bride came with her father, and was met at the church door by her five bridesmaids, namely, Miss Craven, her sister; Lady Florence Gordon Lennox, sister of the bridegroom; Lady Feodorowna and Lady Magdalen Yorke, cousins of the bride; and the Hon. Blanche Colville. The service was full choral. The bride's dress was of rich white satin, with a long square train, and trimmed with tulle, ostrich feathers, and orange blossoms; and a wreath of the same flowers was covered by a tulle veil. Her ornaments were a pearl necklace with diamond and pearl pendant, and diamond pearl bracelet, the gift of the bridegroom. The bridesmaids' pretty costumes were of white silk and muslin, with dark ruby velvet toques and feathers. Each wore a gold bracelet with the initials "I. M.," and coronet in blue enamel, the gift of the bridegroom. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. Henry White, M.A., chaplain of the Chapel Royal, Savoy, and Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, assisted by the Rev. E. Lyon Fellowes, rector of Wimpole, the bride being given away by her father. Immediately after the ceremony the earl and his bride, preceded by the choristers and clergy and followed by the Duchess of Richmond and Gordon and Mr. Craven, the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke, to the gate of the churchyard, left the church, and drove off to Mr. Craven's house, 26, Curzon-street, Mayfair, where the wedding party afterwards met, including the Princess Mary Adelaide Duchess and the Duke of Teck, and many other friends. Refreshments were served in the dining-room. About five o'clock the Earl and Countess of March left by special train for Babraham Hall, Earl Cadogan's seat in Cambridgeshire, for the honeymoon. The wedding gifts were extremely numerous. The Prince and Princess of Wales's present to the bride was a star stone diamond bracelet, and the Prince's gift to the bridegroom was a gold mounted Malacca cane. Mr. Craven presented his daughter with, among other presents, a pearl and diamond necklace, a magnificent diamond spray, and a gold mounted dressing case.

THE WAR PREPARATIONS.

At Woolwich comparative calm has succeeded the bustle and excitement of last week, but all the manufacturing and store departments will be occupied for some time to come on works of necessity which been discovered during the general overhaul. The news of increased activity has had the usual effect of attracting to Woolwich much of the unemployed labour from other parts of the country, with disappointing consequences, as the ordinary establishment has proved quite sufficient for the brief emergency, and no additional workmen have been even temporarily engaged. One feature which has attended all recent demonstrations and sudden periods of activity like the present has been missed during these preparations, and that is the supply of stores by contract, but on Monday morning the familiar arrivals began, and during the day numbers of vehicles brought in consignments of goods of many kinds, such as an army on active service would need for its sustenance, and such as enterprising tradesmen are always ready to furnish. Among these were waggon loads of compressed hay which were taken into the dockyard, implying that the machinery there at work, compressing at the rate of 20 tons per day, was unequal to the probable demand. The spacious floors of the commissariat store were also being cleared of empty cases for the reception and packing of the multifarious provisions which are collected together at the threat of a campaign, while other storehouses were being emptied of bedding and barrack furniture to be sent in various directions for the use of the Reserves. It was, however, officially stated that no fresh instructions had been received as to calling out the Reserves, and the belief prevails that no further steps will be taken in the matter.

In the event of an expeditionary force being despatched to Egypt, the Line battalions at home that stand highest on the roster for foreign service, with an establishment of 950 rank and file each, are the 1st Shropshire, 1st Royal Highlanders, 2d Highland Light Infantry, 1st West Kent, 1st North Lancashire, 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers, 2d York and Lancaster, 2d Munster Fusiliers, 2d Essex, 1st East Surrey, 2d Royal Irish, and 2d Royal Sussex. Next on the list, but on a smaller establishment of 850 rank and file, come the 2d Durham Light Infantry, 2d Oxford Light Infantry, 2d South Lancashire, and 2d Dublin Fusiliers. Together with three battalions of the Guards—namely, the 2d Battalions of the Grenadiers and Coldstream, and the 1st Battalion of the Scots Guards—several of the above would probably form part of an army corps for service, the remainder of which would be made up of the regiments now quartered in the Mediterranean garrisons. Of the sixteen Line battalions enumerated eight or nine are in perfect condition for service in the field, two or three more are nearly so, but the 2d Essex, 2d Royal Irish, and 2d South Lancashire, not having been made up to the higher strength until a few months ago, are about one-half recruits, while one or two more also contain an undue proportion of immature soldiers. The three Guards battalions could at once be made thoroughly efficient by contributions from other portions of the regiment. The nine battalions in the Mediterranean consist of seasoned troops, and are all nearly, if not quite, up to the regulated complement of 800 rank and file each. Of the regiments to be sent from home, the Irish Fusiliers, Shropshire, York and Lancaster, North Lancashire, and West Kent are over 900 strong and in excellent condition. The East Surrey is also a good regiment. In the event of a second army corps being sent on active service the regiments standing on the list for it would be the 2d South Yorkshire, 1st Hampshire, 1st East Kent, 1st Dorset, 1st North Staffordshire, 1st London Fusiliers, 1st Cheshire, 1st Duke of Cornwall's, 3d Battalion Rifle Brigade, 1st Norfolk, 1st East Yorkshire, and 2d Inniskilling Fusiliers. But, with one or two exceptions, these regiments would not muster more than about 200 effective rank and file each, and it would be necessary to fill them with the Reserve men in order to place them in a condition to take the field. Several of the weeker regiments would probably be sent in the first instance to the Mediterranean garrisons. Of the cavalry likely to be called for, the 4th, 5th, and 7th Dragoon Guards, 19th and 20th Hussars on the higher strength, and the 2d and 3d Dragoon Guards on the lower, stand in order on the list. It is not probable that the Household Cavalry would be asked to furnish a contingent. Of these regiments, the 4th Dragoon Guards form a splendid heavy cavalry corps, as regards both men and horses, and the 5th Dragoon Guards are but little, if anything, inferior. The 19th Hussars are said to be about the best cavalry corps in the service in the matter of reconnoissance and outpost duty. But the regiment has been somewhat heavily handicapped in the matter of senior officers, and it was passed over last year when a cavalry contingent was sent out to Natal. The 7th Dragoon Guards, although in some respects a good regiment, has suffered from the same disadvantage in recent years. The 20th Hussars have only lately been placed upon the increased establishment, and has many recruits. Should more regiments be required, those standing for service after the 2d and 3d Dragoon Guards are the Royal Dragoons, Scots Greys, 21st Hussars, 5th Lancers, and 18th Hussars. It is to be noted, however, that the 4th and 5th Dragoon Guards and the 19th and 20th Hussars, although among the first for service, are those most short of subaltern officers. The two former require about seven subalterns and the two latter six each to bring them up to the strength required for foreign service.

It is doubtful whether in the present state of foreign affairs the projected manœuvres at Aldershot will take place. Should they do so, the following regiments taking part therein

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ARTILLERY NOTES ON THE BOMBARDMENT.

The first day's firing at Alexandria evidently closed the action of the ships, and the fire ceased practically because there was nothing more to fire at. No one can help being struck by the clear line now so sharply defined between the capabilities of a fleet at sea and an army on land. This fact was brought into prominent notice during the late war in America, when it was found that the Southerners, better armed and better trained than the Egyptians, could never be driven away from their defences by the fire of ships alone. Ironclads do not carry men enough for any serious operations on shore. The fire of the Egyptians was quite as effective as could be expected. But their want of skill as artillerists was clearly proved by the circumstance that their smooth-bore guns made better practice than the rifled ordnance. This is easily explained. A round shot from a smooth-bore gun may strike short without being altogether wasted. It bounds along the surface of the sea usually in the same direction as that in which it was fired until its force is exhausted and it sinks. A rifled gun, on the contrary, sends its projectile with far more accuracy if well laid with careful regulation of range. But, if there is any fault in the aim, and the shell strikes short or over, its path after the first plunge becomes totally different from the original line of fire. It ricochets indeed, but in a curve, and so misses the mark altogether. Thus, in expert hands, the smooth-bore is more likely to hit, though the effect is not so great when it does strike. There will be many opinions as to the fire of the fleet. Most experts, as we believe, have been rather agreeably surprised at its general accuracy. Bearing in mind that the deck of a ship, whether turret or broadside, is a very unstable platform, which rocks with every motion of the water, hower slight, and is always set in motion by the fire of her own guns; remembering also that movement of the muzzle of the gun up and down through an angle of even one degree will make a difference of hundreds of yards in the range, it is impossible to speak critically of a fire which utterly destroyed a considerable number of shore batteries and dismounted their guns. The current report is that all the batteries facing the sea were destroyed and the guns dismounted. On all sides we hear that a very large number, estimated at two thousand, of the enemy lost their lives or were wounded, and that the moral effect produced was very great. Some of our foreign critics had opinions that the fire might have been quicker, and so on. But against this criticism we have the fact that the *Invincible*, and other ships, had to cease anything like rapid fire because the dense volumes of smoke obscured the aim of the guns. It is worth remark that the shore guns, which were mounted Moncrieff fashion—that is, on the disappearing principle—did exactly what was expected of them. They were much more difficult to silence, because they were sunk below the level of the works except at the moment of firing. There are now in existence other systems of making guns disappear after firing besides that of Major Moncrieff, and we are not sure that the guns in question were actually mounted on his carriages. Whether they were or not, the credit of having worked out the principle in more than one form, and pushed it forward indefatigably until it was accepted in this country, is certainly due to him. The idea has always been opposed by the lovers of bricks and mortar, which are now the red tape of fortification, but it may be hoped that the experience at Alexandria will give a new impetus to the idea and a new development to the system. Considering the number of hours during which the bombardment continued the casualties on our side were not heavy. Five killed and twenty-seven wounded is a small price to pay for so much work. But the action has sufficed to show that ironclads are not impregnable even to guns which are moderate in size. Some of the hulls of the ships were pierced, but on the other hand none of them seems to have leaked seriously so far as is yet known. The *Alexandra* appears to have had two of her guns disabled by the fire of the enemy. These guns are said to be split, and she will have to return to Malta for new ones. It is interesting to know that the turret vessels were better able to remain in motion while working their guns than the broadside ships, but on the other hand the effect produced on the minds of those who were watching the fight was that on the whole the broadside ships made the best practice. This, again, is natural enough. The guns of vessels at anchor are likely to be steadier than if their platforms had the additional difficulty of being in perpetual motion; but movement has the effect of deranging the aim of the enemy, who, if not possessed of range-finders, can never know exactly how far distant is the target at which he is firing.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND EGYPT.

The re-establishment in Egypt of what is called the *status quo ante* was put out of question as soon as the first shot was fired into Alexandria. The burning and the massacres make matters very much worse of course; but even before those events this had become clear: that whatever may be the change in our *general* relations with France, our relations with her in Egypt were so altered that it had become impossible for us to assent to the restoration in that country of what was known as the Dual Control. The Dual Control cannot be restored because of this plain fact: for months past the French in Egypt have been making friends with the Nationalists and military party there, while we have been for as long a period declared enemies of the military party. Long before the bombardment, Arabi and his colleagues had come to regard the French as friendly to them; while at the time of the massacre of June, and both before and since, it became clear that the anti-European hostility of the people was being directed upon the English chiefly. And now that state of things has been immeasurably emphasized by the bombardment of Alexandria on our part, and the ostentatious abstention of the French. Now if after that, and after the destruction of the forts has been followed by the expulsion of Arabi and his army, we were to re-enter upon the Control with France on something like the old footing, it is perfectly obvious what the consequences would be. There has been hostile intrigue—(our officials are not likely to proclaim it at present, but they are more than sensible of it)—when there was little ground for intrigue to go upon: how much more would there be after all these stirrings of "bad blood;" and with the general feeling of the French toward us embittered; and with their agents able to move about amongst the angry Egyptians whom we had chastised—pointing to the bombardment business as a proof that "Codlin's the friend, not Short?" We should like to dwell a little on this point—to ask, for instance, whether all the recent conduct of the French in this affair does not indicate an *intention* to profit by their friendship for the military party—when the Dual Control has been re-established. But enough has been said, perhaps, to satisfy every open mind that the Dual Control must not be re-established; and of that our Government does not need to be convinced, we fancy. But of course that conclusion (which not one man in a thousand in either country has hitherto faced) is a very serious one; and it has already led to projects for admitting Italy into the Control when order has been resettled in Egypt. The calculation is obvious. Italy is no friend of France; the hatred between the two countries is deep, and likely to be lasting; and with Italy in Egypt as a third party to the Control, French machinations might be held in check. But that calculation can as easily be made in Paris as in London; and when it is "seen through" it can only create more "bad blood" in France, where it would be taken for what an assenting Germany would also understand it to be, a heavy blow and great humiliation. And yet the French might have no choice but to assent; and if they did so what a prospect of future troubles would a patch-up like that open to us! May it not be well, then, now that we have come to our present pass in Egypt (which we may probably have to conquer), to reconsider every design of the "patch-up" description? It is believed that our Government have at last succeeded in finding grace at Berlin, where for months past we have recommended them to seek it; it is pretty certain that the more we profit by that the more we shall exasperate the illwill already generated in France; and it is a true saying that a man may as well be hung for a sheep as a lamb. And, considering how infinitely more important it has now become that India and the whole East shall see that we are neither to be beaten nor hustled out of Egypt, the great question of the hour is, whether we should not push for a settlement that will put an end to all doubt on that point. Courage is necessary for that, we know; but foresight is equally necessary: courage alone may enter the field too late—*St. James's Gazette*.

WAR ITEMS.

The Queen has despatched a telegram to Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour, congratulating him upon the success of Tuesday's engagement, and expressing her sense of the admirable behaviour of the officers and men of the fleet. Lord Northbrook has addressed a telegram to the Admiral, in which he bears testimony of his appreciation of the gallantry and devotion of the officers and men of the squadron, who, while under the Admiral's orders, carried out the important duty of bombarding the Egyptian fortifications on Tuesday last.

The *Morning Post* understands that if events in the East call for military intervention the Duke of Connaught will proceed to the scene of war in command of a brigade of British troops.

The *Daily News* hears that on Wednesday the Governments of Germany and Austria sent telegrams to the Prime Minister, expressing approval of the action taken by the British fleet at Alexandria.

The Admiralty proposes to call upon Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour to send in a full and exhaustive report as to the performance of each of the ironclads under his command in the naval engagement of Tuesday last, with details as to the working of their armament, and the effect upon the ships by the fire of the enemy's guns.

A number of militia commanding officers have placed the service of their regiments at the disposal of the Government, in view of the probable despatch of an expedition to Egypt; but it is proposed in the first instance to employ those regiments which are undergoing training or are ordered shortly to assemble.

The Ottoman Bank say their officials who were in Alexandria are now safe on board ship with the specie.

The extra insurance premiums now being paid on vessels passing through the Suez Canal amount to 2s. 6d. per cent. for outward-bound, and to about 5s. for homeward-bound vessels.

Lieutenant E. S. E. Childers, Royal Engineers, son of the Secretary of State for War, will surrender his appointment as Assistant Private Secretary to his father at the War Office, and proceed with the expedition to Egypt.

It is expected that large numbers of troops will embark at Chatham Dockyard for the East in the course of a few days. Every preparation is being made for the probable emergency. Orders were received late on Thursday night at the Gun Wharf to prepare immediately camp equipments for 2,000 men. A telegram this morning informs the authorities at Chatham that a special train will be despatched during the day from Woolwich Arsenal to Chatham with a further supply of tents, cooking appratus, etc. Captain H. H. Rawson, of the Naval Transport Service Corps, visited Chatham Dockyard on Friday morning, and had a long consultation with Admiral Superintendent Watson and the leading officials. A large number of horse-boats and horse-floats are to be despatched from Chatham.

Orders have been given for the immediate supply of 5,000 entrenching spades, the invention of Major Wallace, King's Royal Rifle Corps, for the use of the Egyptian expedition. Fifteen hundred are to be delivered at Woolwich at the end of this week, and the remainder in batches of 500, as they are ready.

Mr. William Shannon, the only warrant or other officer reported to have been killed in the engagement of Tuesday, is spoken of as a man of superior character and ability, on which account he was especially selected by Captain Fisher for the *Inflexible* when attached to the *Dreadnought*. He leaves a widow and family.

On Wednesday nearly a hundred additional men and boys were taken on at the cartridge factories and shell foundry of Woolwich Arsenal; and the whole of the departments were active. In order to back up the 1st and 2d units of the siege train if needed, the 3d and 4th units are being got into trim—a work of some magnitude, seeing that each unit comprises 30 large guns and about 90 vehicles of various descriptions.

The *Euphrates*, Indian troopship, Captain C. S. Cardale, which was commissioned at Portsmouth on Wednesday, will sail from that port on Sunday morning next with further reinforcements for the Mediterranean. She is still engaged in filling up with stores.

THE BOMBARDMENT AT ALEXANDRIA.

FIRE AND PILLAGE.

The *Standard* has received the following despatches from its correspondent:—

ALEXANDRIA, FRIDAY, 9.10 A.M.

During the last twenty-four hours some very exciting events have come under my notice. I landed with Ross last night. I learned that the Egyptian troops evacuated the city amid great disorder while the flag of truce was flying. Immediately after the mob commenced to plunder in all directions. It would appear that the houses in the town were first plundered, and then set on fire. The English Church was first fired by one of our shells, but yesterday the mob completely destroyed the sacred edifice. In the Eastern Telegraph Office I found a clerk, who had been left behind, murdered, like so many other Christians. All the prisoners, including those captured during the riot a month ago, had been liberated. These continue the work of plunder and carnage; otherwise the city is entirely deserted. We were informed that Arabi had spread a report to the effect that the English could only fight at sea; that he would withdraw until the British troops landed; and that then there would be a great battle. On returning to our vessel we found a barge containing 40 refugees, nine of whom are English. They had delayed their departure too long, and hidden themselves in the barge. The city is still burning.

From the maintops of our vessels this morning we can see Arab men and women still looting in the streets. The Admiral had determined to land a force, but, having been told by some refugees that nine thousand Egyptian troops occupied a position outside the city, ready for attack, and as he could only land three hundred men, he considered such a step unadvisable. Instead, therefore, of sending men on shore, he ordered the city to be fired over, in order to frighten the rioters. Twenty armed Europeans soon afterwards arrived. They had barricaded their houses, and thus escaped from the general massacre. They confirmed, in every particular, all the information I have sent you. They passed through the streets this morning, the rioters appearing too busily engaged in their work of destruction to take any notice of them. They stated that, with the exception of those engaged in the pillaging of the city, the place was utterly abandoned.

The Egyptian losses during the engagement of the fleet were very severe. They had been told by a Pacha whom they met that the killed numbered over six hundred. The English and French Consulates have been burned to the ground, and the greater portion of the Grand Square is still in flames. A party of blue jackets were landed this morning at the Gabarrie battery. They spiked and destroyed 19 guns which were in position. The *Monarch* opened fire at another battery, which was soon destroyed. The looting and burning of the city continuing to increase, the Admiral seemed to be much distressed that he could not afford a sufficient force of men to land, in consequence of the information respecting the large force of Egyptians ready to attack. Three officers have arrived in hot haste from Ramleh, where the Khedive is living in the utmost danger, and begged the protection of the English. The Admiral at once acceded to the request. Two regiments of cavalry and one of infantry are with the Khedive, ostensibly as guards of honour, but the day after the bombardment they surrounded the Palace and would have murdered his Highness, only Dervish Pacha, who remains with him, interfered.

It is believed that if the British forces had occupied the city this morning, the Khedive would certainly have been murdered. We expected his Highness to come on board one of our ships, if he could possibly make his way there. Another body of Marines and blue jackets have gone on shore, and spiked all the guns they could find. I accompanied them. Everywhere around us were traces of the terrific fire from the fleet to which the place had been subjected, and the thoroughly complete manner in which the work had been performed. The great question now is, as to how order is to be restored in the city, and how the streets nearest the harbour can be cleared. It is, however, impossible to do anything until the Khedive's safety has been secured. The *Condor* has gone round, and has taken up a position opposite Ramleh, so as to create a diversion, or, perhaps, to take his Highness on board.

HALF-PAST NINE.

Alexandria continues to burn. A dense smoke overhangs the city, and now and then explosions occur. The Marines have opened fire on that part of the shore where the pillagers are to be seen. A Proclamation in Arabic is being prepared, calling upon the people to maintain order. The Khedive, accompanied by Dervish Pacha and some of his Ministers, as well as by his harem, has arrived on board. About 500 faithful soldiers will follow him. Now that his Highness is here the Proclamation will be issued through him. The soldiers will be advised to disband, and return to their homes. The Khedive states that Arabi Pacha has only 4,000 troops with him, and that they are highly disorganised. Dervish Pacha says that but for the opportune appearance on Wednesday, the day after the bombardment, of one of her Majesty's ships off Pharos, the Khedive would have been murdered. The *Helicon* took off to-day, to ships lying outside, about 170 Europeans belonging to different nations, who had barricaded themselves in the premises of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank. Two hundred Marines, who were ashore all day, have been ordered to march through the town, and to shoot all persons they see engaged in riotous proceedings. The *Iris* has arrived at Port Said. She lies with one broadside bearing on the town, and the other on an Egyptian corvette, which is under the command of one of Arabi's officers. There are 428 British subjects at Port Said, 500 soldiers, and 200 police. No signs are yet apparent of any attempt to block the Suez Canal.

The *Daily Telegraph* has received the following telegrams from its correspondent with the British Fleet:—

ON BOARD THE "ACHILLES," JULY 13. (11.15 A.M.)

Early this morning Colonel Long, the African Explorer, and myself, determined to enter Alexandria, and see for ourselves what was going on within the City. At daybreak we found the English Fleet lying in two squadrons, where they had been left on the previous night. One squadron was off the Pharos Fort, and consisted of the *Alexandra*, the *Achilles*, just arrived, the *Sultan*, the *Inflexible*, the *Téméraire*, the *Neptune*. The second, consisting of the *Monarch*, the *Penelope*, and the *Invincible* lay just outside the Harbour. From this last squadron we saw the Admiral send off the *Helicon* with a flag of truce, and then observed the ships moving slowly into the Outer Harbour. The *Helicon* having anchored, the rest of the Squadron passed her, and brought up close inside the Breakwater. Taking my boat, we sailed towards the shore, passing the *Helicon*, the *Invincible*, the *Penelope*, and the *Monarch* on our way. Scarcely had we got beyond the large ironclads when we came up with the *Beacon* gun-boat, and from her we learned that the town was in the hands of Arabi's party. Nevertheless, we decided to persevere, and went on to the Inner Harbour. There we met a steam launch coming up, and flying the English flag. A man on board, wearing a fez, cried out, "The town is in the hands of the Bedouins, and they have fired the European quarter." We could see the smoke ascending in a dense volume, which confirmed this report, but we determined to proceed at all hazards. In the Inner Harbour we found three Egyptian ships, flying the Egyptian flag. We were not molested, however, and we proceeded straight up the harbour to the Palace, and there we at once discovered that the whole of the central and European portion of the city was in flames. The wing of the palace was badly hit by shells, and injured by fire. Some of the neighbouring buildings were also burned in the Arab quarter close by. A considerable number were seriously injured, but not altogether burnt down. It was clear, however, that there had been a great deal of fire here.

The Grand Square where the dreadful riots took place on the 11th of June was all ablaze. All the European streets leading from the Square were apparently also burning. It would seem that the Bedouins entered last evening and sacked the city, and set fire to many of the houses. I estimate that the conflagration now covers an area of a mile in length. A fearful body of flame is ri ing from this space. A heavy smoke hangs everywhere, and the air is too hot even to permit one to approach near to the scene. We saw no natives anywhere about, but were told by an Arab that they had fled away *en masse* towards the Canal. I found that the Egyptian soldiers had evacuated all batteries and fortresses, and were gathered together in considerable force in the neighbourhood of Moharrun Bay, the outer part of the City suburbs. The place was a desert all round. The soldiers, in their retreat, had done nothing to check the conflagration, or put a stop to the plundering, which instantly commenced, but left the Bedouins to do exactly as they pleased. Not a soul was trying to arrest the destruction everywhere overtaking the City. Soon we reached a quarter where the danger from the flames and falling buildings was too great to allow of our proceeding. We therefore had to retreat and coming through deserted streets reached the harbour again. About ten o'clock I saw the *Invincible* fire two shells at the outer part of the City, whether at the retreating troops or not I cannot say. Then I came round to the other side of the town, and saw the *Chiltern* Telegraph Ship getting under weigh, in order to re-enter the harbour. I am now going over to the New Port to see if I can land there, and get an accurate idea how far the conflagration extends. At the present moment it is my firm opinion that the whole European quarter of the City of Alexandria is doomed to destruction.

ALEXANDRIA, THURSDAY, 9.20 P.M.

Continuing my trip of investigation, I went into the New Harbour, and landing near the Baths, found the Place des Consuls, or Grand Square, all on fire. The Hôtel Europe, which is at its corner, was already burnt down; the French Consulate was fiercely on fire, but, strangely enough, the street at the back of the Consulate, the Rue de l'Eglise Anglaise, leading to the Café Paradiso—known to every European—was not touched. Then we turned the head of our boat, and went towards Pharos once more. As we approached the point we found English blue-jackets and marines landing in great numbers. They were evidently drafted from every ship, for boats from nearly all the men-o'-war were alongside; but the parties were not landing in any particular order, as it had been long ago discovered that the city was empty of hostile troops. Going farther round we found one considerable party of Jacks and Jollys at the Palace with boats. The sailors all had their rifles and cartridge cases, and were particularly lively, bandying all sorts of jokes and making great fun of looking for the enemy, who, however, was well out of the way, but had done all the mischief he could while escaping under his false flag of truce.

Then we pushed on, and perceived more sailors and marines on a despatch steamer getting ready to receive the Khedive, who had been in retirement at Ramleh, and was expected shortly at this spot. Here the officer in command warned us not to go on alone, but we ventured to push on to the landing-place near the Post-office, where in a few minutes there also arrived a party of marines and sailors from the *Invincible*. These formed up into a column at the bottom of the street leading into the city, and on going along with them we saw Arabs firing one private dwelling-house and plundering others. We had here a small street fight, killing a couple of rascally Arab robbers. But the mob thickened, and the officer fell back for reinforcement, which came presently in the welcome shape of a Gatling gun from the *Monarch*. With this gun a second advance was made into the middle of the street, and, after a short, sharp fight, the party killed five more Arabs and partly cleared the vicinity. But beyond this was a howling mass of cut-throats, and the officer, finding his force still very small, judged it better not to attempt to push his way into the centre of the quarter.

Meanwhile a large number of Europeans, chiefly Greeks and Levantines, who had hidden all day and night in town from the time of the bombardment, came running down. Some French ladies were amongst them, whose sad condition was very pitiable to behold. From them we learnt that the Arabs had behaved very badly yesterday, killing all the Christians they could find. The fugitives had hidden in cellars as best they could. They said the noise of the bombardment was most awful, but even more dreadful still were the cries of the many wounded Arabs and soldiers who ran through the streets, cursing, screaming, and vociferating vengeance. Presently there came along a very distinguished refugee, an Egyptian Bey, the successor of that prefect of police who allowed the Europeans to be killed on the 11th of June last. He made a demand upon our officer for a fire-engine, in order to put out a terrible conflagration close by. He also said that the waterworks had stopped action since the Englishmen left, and there was now no water in the town. "Would some of us Englishmen go there and set the water supply in motion again?" We sent him on to the Harbour-master's old office, where a lot of English marines and blue-jackets were already assembled. Then in post-haste came tearing along a posse of the Khedive's servants, to announce that the Khedive himself was coming up the road from Ramleh, attended by Dervish Pacha in a carriage. These called out that "the Effendina" was seeking shelter on board one of her Majesty's ships. Amongst this party was Martino Bey, the Khedive's private secretary. Just as he arrived and began to converse I saw dust, and heard the rumbling of carriage-wheels, and very quickly the Khedive, with Dervish Pacha, arrived. His Highness was put aboard of the little steamer, and conveyed round the harbour, where, thank Heaven, this faithful and courageous Prince is at last all safe.

I found Arabi had gone to Kefr-el-Dewar, a place about an hour from Alexandria, where he was reported to be entrenching his troops and had blown up the railway between himself and Alexandria. General Stone, the American Pacha, who formerly was a great friend of Arabi, escaped with the Khedive, but he had left his family at Cairo. On questioning Martino Bey, I learned that just before the bombardment the Khedive and Dervish Pacha, who at the last moment refused to embark, both quitted Ras-el-Tin for the palace at Ramleh. There they stayed all day, the Khedive being terribly anxious and despondent. Next morning Arabi suddenly ordered a detachment of soldiers to surround the palace where the Khedive and Dervish were awaiting the issue of events, as Martino believes, with full intent to kill them both. Thereupon Raghib Pacha went to Arabi, and demanded sternly what this manœuvre meant. Arabi replied that it meant no particular harm, but that the troops only wished to keep the Khedive. He, however, promised to order the soldiery away, but did not keep his word, and at the last moment he actually told his men to kill the Khedive. The soldiers, however, by that time heard the English were coming, and deserted their posts everywhere, refusing to kill the Khedive, who at that hour was left almost unguarded. Hearing the English were coming, his Highness sent word to tell them where he was, asking how he could come off safely; whereupon the Admiral quickly arranged everything, and sent a party to the Khedive's yacht *Mahroussa*. It was found she could not be got in working order, accordingly another Egyptian steamship was utilised, which was employed to get him off. At the moment of my telegraphing I am leaving Alexandria for our man-of-war, Colonel Long and myself having twice penetrated the town. I may mention that we were, by good luck, ahead of everybody, and found an awful condition of things there. *Alexandria* is practically destroyed. The European quarter is nearly all burnt to the ground, and all the best houses in the quarter looted. Our Gatling gun was of great assistance in the street fight, quickly demolishing all resistance. Long and I got twice separated from the marines, and the few sailors with us had a narrow escape, the Arabs coming up in large force. However, we managed, as I have said, to retreat to the boat and got reinforcements, finally coming off safely. The town was at that time still in the hands of the enemy, and is so even now, in large part, as there are not enough sailors and marines here to occupy all the streets at once. Probably all will be right to-morrow; but the fires are spreading with terrible rapidity, and I do not know when they will stop. One house fell with a monstrous crash within twenty feet of where I stood; numbers of others, not far off, were blazing and cracking. There has befallen a vast destruction of property everywhere.

We captured one prisoner with a great bag filled with cigars on his back. The Jack-tars took the cigars away from him, and then let him go, with sundry kicks, much frightened. I find from a friend on board the *Alexandra* that a most gallant deed was done by a gunner aboard that vessel. A lighted shell came through upon the main deck, and the brave gunner picked it up and immersed the burning fuse in a bucket of water, coolly putting it out. It is described as a wonderful piece of devotion, more gallant than anything of the sort ever before chronicled. This fearless fellow will be recommended for the Victoria Cross.

Eleven shots burst aboard the *Alexandra* and twenty shots struck the ship. One man was killed and four wounded in the commander's own cabin. Another shot smashed the captain's cabin. With regard to the city, again, I learn that only after I saw and talked with an Arab yesterday, did the place begin to be pillaged. I am convinced that, if the Admiral had only had at his command as many as 1,000 or 1,200 troops here, we might have saved this magnificent emporium of commerce. As the matter stands, it is destroyed. The English church is, I believe, a mass of smoking ruins; so are almost all the other English buildings. The destruction of property has been simply immense. I questioned a native whom our party caught in the streets. He says the Arabs in the forts ran away in great numbers when the heavy firing from the ships first began. Arabi's officers had great difficulty in keeping even a portion of the fellaheen soldiery at the guns, but some of these, and especially some of the black troops, fought well. Large numbers of these poor fellows were killed. From all sources I gather that as many as 2,000 must have perished by shots, shells, and explosions; but this must be regarded only as an estimate. As I telegraph, the *Invincible*, with three gunboats, has drawn near the inside of the inner harbour. The fire continues, though the soldiers and sailors are still on land. The bulk of the fleet is lying close in shore. Our telegraph ship has moved a little nearer to town, paying out cable as she came into the harbour. All is quiet except in the burning, crackling, dreadful streets. No troops at all remain in any of the forts, but evidently there may be heavy fighting before us in case any attempt be made to advance into the country. In justice to myself and you, I may be allowed to mention that my message on the day of the bombardment was first completed, and would have first conveyed all details, but for a luckless accident to my boat. She was under sail for the telegraph ship, when we lost our mast and split our sail, finally foundering in mid sea. I nearly lost my life as well as the first chance. I did lose the MS. of my message, and had to re-write a curtailed account. I hope this personal detail will be forgiven under the hard circumstances of the partial disappointment.

FROM THE ADMIRALTY.

TELEGRAM NO. 116, FROM SIR BEAUCHAMP SEYMOUR, DATED ALEXANDRIA, JULY 14TH, 7.10 A.M.

Regreat distance from cable ship impedes my telegraphing rapidly. Have occupied Ras-el-Tin with Marines of squadron, and spiked guns in six batteries opposite. Alexandria still burning, but am clearing streets. Khedive safe in Palace, garrisoned by 700 Marines. Please express thanks of officers and men of the squadron for the gracious and kind message from her Majesty. Conduct of officers and men beyond all praise. In reply to message from her Majesty, majority of wounded doing well, including Lieutenant Jackson of *Inflexible*.

TELEGRAM FROM ADMIRAL SIR BEAUCHAMP SEYMOUR, DATED JULY 14:—

"Am endeavouring to clear streets of marauders. *Penelope* leaves to-day for Port Said with Rear-Admiral Hoskins. Khedive and family in Palace."

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM THE "WORLD.")

A revival of the Regatta Ball at Cowes is announced. It is by way of a compliment to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales on his becoming Commodore of the Royal Yacht Squadron; but it will be given by all the members who like to join in the subscription. Mr. Ward had lent his beautiful house, Northwood, for the occasion, which is most suitable for the purpose, having a really fine suite of reception-rooms; but, since giving this permission, the owner of Northwood is dead, and it becomes a question if, under these circumstances, the ball will be held there.

Telegraphic messages of a most alarming nature were received by Colonel Edmond Chaplin's relations on Saturday regarding his illness at Ems. Lady Gwendoline Chaplin started for Ems on Saturday night, accompanied by a medical man in whom the family place implicit confidence. The sudden seizure of illness was from congestion of the lungs; but the telegrams have since been of a more reassuring nature. Colonel Chaplin has been staying at Ems for the last three weeks for his health, having suffered from gout and rheumatism during the winter and spring.

Last week was famed for brilliant marriages. An incident at the March wedding is rather amusing. When Lord and Lady March drove off to catch the "special" to Newmarket, by which they were to travel as far as Cambridge, the orders for their journey were mistaken, and consequently they went to Liverpool-street. "No special here for Newmarket" was the announcement—for, alas, St. Pancras was the terminus they should have gone to! As hard as they could drive, then, to the right station, where many racing folks, *en route* to Newmarket, had arrived in good time; and several among them had already been at the wedding, and therefore knew what arrangements had been made for the journey to Babraham by the happy pair. With a little persuasion the officials were induced to delay the start of the train, on the chance of there having been some accident to cause the non-arrival; and thus they were able to get off by the train they intended. As they reached St. Pancras in hot haste, Lady March looked lovely.

One of the great events of the season was the marriage of the popular Vicar of Kensington, Mr. Glyn, with Lady Mary Campbell. Crowds of rich and poor were gathered there, and the way was kept by detachments of soldiers from the neighbouring barracks.

Lady Mary Hamilton gained a leading article in a daily paper by celebrating her marriage in rather a novel manner in the matter of bridesmaids, for there were none. Only a page in fancy dress followed the bride; but as her costume was short—another novelty—his office was a sinecure. I scarcely fancy young ladies will cordially assent to this new idea in the marriage festivities—no bridesmaids, no trained skirt; next to favours, no cake, "no nothing."

Not so Miss Florence Long, who had a velvet train over her bridal dress and a young nephew page to bear the same, as well as a band—I rather think the right word is a bevy—of bridesmaids; and they, of course, had the jewel-gifts from the bridegroom, Mr. Fairbairn.

When Mr. Cooper married Lady Agnes Flower she was given away by Lord Kinnoull's brother, the Hon. A. Hay Drummond.

The long-deferred marriage of Mr. Lionel Benson and Miss Fotheringham will take place early this autumn.

The past week has not maintained such a good average of entertainments as did the last week of June, though several excellent balls have been given, and one of remarkable merit. Marryings have been the order of the day, and cotillons the business of the night. The former can hardly be looked upon as an amusement under any circumstances; while the latter, though hitherto not taken in a serious spirit, have actually become comparatively sprightly; and, had the season another month to run, there is no knowing what success might not reward the painstaking of society.

On Monday night Mrs. Cyril Flower's ball was, in the opinion of the many, the best of all the season. There has never been gathered together such a collection of lovely faces in so beautiful a house. The Prince came early and stayed late, but not late enough for the cotillon, which did not commence until after sunrise on Tuesday; for the only drawback to the pleasure of the ball was that it was so very pleasant that nobody thought of going home, and hence the rooms remained crowded long after the hour when dancing is generally at an end. The next evening there was another cotillon on a milder scale at Mrs. Pereira's little dance in Park-street. Mrs. Pitt Rivers also entertained a large number of young ladies and their chaperons, and a small company of young men.

Mrs. Burton Persse, wife of the well-known Master of the County Galway hounds ("The Blazers"), died in Dublin on Saturday, after a short illness. As the hospitable châtelaine of Moyode Castle, she was very generally known, and immensely popular among all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance. She was the aunt of the present Lord Claremorris and of Mrs. Albert Brassey.

Certainly the best joke of the season, and quite true. She is virtuous and even prudish, but naturally anxious to marry her daughters. He is a peer with about £10,000 a year. But on being left alone with her, he mistook the tenor of her conversation; and, springing up almost tragically, said, "O my dear Lady ——, don't lead me on, please! I swore to my father on his death-bed that I would never have an intrigue with a married woman."

The Queen has placed a residence close to Balmoral at the disposition of Lord Kenmare during the autumn, as the state of Ireland does not admit of his returning to Killarney at present.

It is quite an exceptional circumstance for the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief to be present at a Cabinet Council. Yet Egyptian affairs were in so critical a state that this new departure was made on Tuesday of last week.

The climbing at Zermatt has now fairly begun. The Rothhorn, Gabelhorn, and Rimpfischorn have been ascended. On the 4th inst. the first ascent of the Matterhorn this season was made by a gentleman from Edinburgh, who was accompanied by the guides Emile Rey and Mooser. The rocks were found in "bad condition," thickly covered with snow and ice. The party left the lower hut at 3 a.m., and did not arrive in Zermatt till 11 p.m.

The difficulties of the ascent of the Matterhorn from Zermatt are much overrated. Ropes and chains have been hung in places where the rocks are at all "troublesome." But although these are a considerable assistance to the climber, they are a source of great danger. Many of the ropes are in a half-rotten condition, having been exposed to the weather for several years. What is every one's business is no one's business, and unless they are renewed there is every chance of another accident still more frightful than of 1865, when Lord F. Douglas was killed.

In his interesting volume, "Essays in Theatrical Criticism," Mr. Mowbray Morris points out a curious difference between the account of Kean's acting furnished by the late George Henry Lewes, and the description contained in an article by Hazlitt in the *London Magazine*. Mr. Lewes says that Kean, having vigilantly and patiently rehearsed every detail, and once regulated his tones, looks, and gestures, *never changed them*. On the other hand, Hazlitt censures the actor for playing Othello, upon a particular occasion, with variations, and therefore necessarily worse. Mr. Morris thinks Mr. Lewes's memory was at fault; the discrepancy, however, is in truth more apparent than real. When Kean died Lewes was but sixteen; he could have seen only Kean's later performances, when his manner was quite fixed, and the time for experiments or reconsideration had for ever gone by. But Hazlitt wrote of Kean's earlier years, when, no doubt, his histrionic method was apt to vary somewhat upon occasion, and he had not added his last touches to his stage portraits. The "variations" of 1820 had probably ceased to be variations, had been altogether dismissed, or had become merged in the personation, when the closing years of the actor's career were arrived at.

Every one seems to be agreed that Mr. Rignold's Macbeth, at Drury Lane, was not a very notable performance. Every one, that is to say, except a critic in *Misprinting House Square*, who found it a "studied and solid performance." But the *Academy* is alone in suggesting Mr. Charles Warner as a better representative. "Where is Mr. Warner," it asks, "who has at least many of the qualities the part demands?" In a good muscular limb of his own, Mr. Warner has certainly one of the qualities which Macbeth, as a *kilted* part, may be said to demand; but even in this respect he is scarcely, perhaps, as *solid* as Mr. Rignold. Otherwise I should say there was little to choose between them. I happen to have seen them both in the Shakespearean drama, and I know whichever was coming my thumbs pricked terribly.

As the Ruskin Turners are about to follow the £6,000 Meissonier to Christie's, prices obtained for examples of the celebrated master in the same mart of recent years may be worth recalling. "Palestine," from the old Bicknell collection, sold for £3,150; "Fishermen upon a Lee-shore" and "Boats carrying out Anchors and Cables to Dutch men-of-war," both purchased by Mr. Benoni White from Lord Delamere's collection in 1856 realised £2,415, and £1,575 respectively three or four years ago; and "Ivy Bridge, Devon," was knocked down for £840. "Off Margate," a sketch, and "Squally Weather," another work of the same order, brought under two hundred guineas the pair.

The annual meeting of the Church Defence Institution on Thursday was noteworthy for the very optimistic tone of the Primate's speech, as also for that of Mr. Edward Clarke, M.P., who said that in his opinion the Church had very little to fear from the present House

Galignani's Messenger.

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NOTICE.

A Four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, *and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.*

Great-Britain.

LONDON, JULY 19—20, 1882.

ENGLAND'S ACTION IN THE EAST.

For the last few days the solution of the Egyptian question has seemed to depend on the answer to be given by the Porte to the invitation addressed to it by the Conference. The Sultan has been formally requested by the Powers of Europe to exercise his sovereign rights for the restoration of order in Egypt. It was necessary that this proposition should be duly made in deference to the acknowledged relations subsisting between Turkey and Egypt. All the Powers of Europe have interests in Egypt which cannot be permanently sacrificed, and though the interests of England and France are by common consent superior both in kind and degree, yet the two Western Powers have frankly deferred to the authority of the European Concert and submitted the whole question to a Conference. The Conference, on its part, has agreed to invite the intervention of the sovereign Power. But, whatever expectations may at one time have been entertained of the success or feasibility of this mode of proceeding—a mode in which France has only acquiesced with reluctance—such expectations are now very materially abated. It will be seen by our correspondence from Constantinople and elsewhere that the Porte is still inclined to a policy of inaction and expectancy. Events, however, do not wait in the meanwhile. The present condition of Egypt is such as to render indefinite delay disastrous, and very possibly fatal. The invitation to the Porte has been given, and there has been abundant time for an answer to be received. As no answer had been given up to last night, the English Government holds that it would be reprehensible to wait any longer. The hesitation of the Porte at a moment when hesitation was fatal has forced it to the conclusion that the invitation of the Conference has been virtually declined, and that nothing remains for it but to carry out by its own efforts the measures which are absolutely necessary for the restoration of order and the public peace in Egypt. There will accordingly be no further delay in carrying out the preparations for military action in Egypt, and definite orders will to-day be issued for the equipment and despatch of an expeditionary force for the purpose of doing the work which the Porte is held to have declined to undertake. The vote of the French Assembly, sanctioning the credit asked for by the Government by a majority of 340 to 66, leaves no doubt of the readiness of France to co-operate with England in Egypt. There seems, moreover, little reason to doubt that the sanction of the Conference will be given to the two Western Powers. The Conference has all along recognized the necessity of taking measures for the restoration of order in Egypt; that, indeed, is its *raison d'être*, and the non-compliance of the Porte must almost force it to accept the only possible alternative. Indeed, it would appear that the Conference has already agreed in principle upon the expediency of intrusting the protection of the Suez Canal to England and France, possibly in conjunction with some other Power; and though the two questions are distinct and might be differently viewed by some of the Powers concerned, it is probable that, in view of the Sultan's hesitation, the mandate would be extended so as to cover the whole Egyptian question. In any case, however, the English Government has now resolved that the necessary work must be undertaken, and undertaken at once. It cannot be said that England has acted with precipitation in the matter, or without due consideration for the very natural susceptibilities whether of the Porte or of other Powers. We have, indeed, pressed the appeal to the Sovereignty of the Sultan in opposition to the views of France, and though the appeal has failed we have nothing to regret in having made it. Whatever may happen, we have no desire whatever to travel outside or beyond the conditions we have all along laid down as essential to any permanent settlement of the Egyptian question. Precisely as if the Porte had taken the matter into its own hands, we shall aim at nothing more nor less than the re-establishment of the *status quo* in Egypt as regards its relations to the Sultan in accordance with existing firmans, the restoration of the authority of the Khedive in the internal government of the country, the fulfilment of international engagements, and the prudent and progressive development of Egyptian institutions. But there is no doubt that the Power or Powers which re-establish order in Egypt and bear the burden and heat of such a day's work will claim a more potent voice than heretofore in the settlement of such questions as already await solution or may arise in the course of the undertaking. The Sultan and the Porte have been repeatedly urged by England and the other Powers to take steps for the suppression of anarchy in Egypt. The Sultan and the Porte first ignored the existence of anarchy, and then practically declined to interfere. The difficulties in which the Sultan finds himself are very clearly explained by our correspondent at Constantinople, and it is plain enough that they are by no means unreal or insignificant. But if the difficulties of the Sultan preclude his effectual intervention in Egypt, and if England and France have to undertake the work, they will do it on their own terms, though they will not swerve from the spirit of the conditions which they have throughout recognised as essential to the real welfare of Egypt. England is thus definitely involved in what cannot but be regarded as a very serious, albeit a necessary, undertaking. It is understood that we shall cordially accept the co-operation of other European Powers. But, in any case, the work will be undertaken, and we shall not flinch until it is accomplished. Such is the resolve of the Government, and its action in this respect will, probably, not be immediately or directly challenged by the Opposition. But the speeches made on Tuesday by Lord Carnarvon and Sir Richard Cross are a proof that the Opposition has not a little to say on the whole question, and we suppose that the traditions of party warfare would not be duly satisfied if the policy of the Government were not formally passed in review and submitted to the inevitable censure. It is probable that a vote of censure will be moved condemning the Government for its dilatory action after the disturbances of the 11th of June, for its want of foresight and preparation when the bombardment of the 11th of July was resolved upon, and for the consequent destruction of life and property in Alexandria. This is we will not and cannot say as it should be, but rather as it must be. An Opposition exists in order to oppose, and no Opposition, perhaps, could afford to neglect such an opportunity of delivering an attack in due form and force as is afforded by the course of events in Egypt and the action of the Government in regard to them. The tactics are old-fashioned, perhaps, but they are quite *en règle*. It is not in Parliamentary or in party human nature to pretermit them. An evening at least, and very likely two or more, of the brief and busy time which still remains to the House of Commons before the recess must perforce be given to talking out the whole Egyptian question. The Opposition will propose to censure the Government for what it has done, for what it has neglected to do, possibly even by implication for what it is about to do. In the meanwhile, the country will recognize that, however inevitable the discussion may be, it will not vitally affect the Egyptian question as it stands at present, and with its eyes intently fixed on events as they occur in Egypt, it will follow the debate with some impatience and not a little indifference. Its real attention will be exclusively devoted to the work now to be undertaken by England and probably by France, after much hesitation, and after a delay which, however inevitable in the circumstances, has already produced deplorable results. It will recognize the magnitude of the Imperial interests at stake, not merely in the present but in the remote and distant future; but it will not forget the duty it owes to Egypt to respect the real interests of the country and promote the true welfare of its people. In this regard there is little that was said by M. Clémenceau in the debate in the French Assembly that the English people and the English Government are not fully prepared to endorse. The real grievances of Egypt will be considered, and, so far as may be, they will be remedied. We have no desire to govern Egypt for ourselves or to ignore the views of Egyptians as to the welfare of their country. But we cannot tolerate anarchy, confusion, and military violence in a country in which our interests are paramount and vital. Now that the task of restoring order and good government is about to be undertaken in earnest, every Englishman must earnestly hope that it will not be abandoned until good government in every sense is re-established and the legitimate grievances from which Egypt has hitherto suffered are finally and completely removed.—*Times*.

THE PROTECTION OF THE SUEZ CANAL.

The English people are indebted to the frankness of a French Minister for a piece of intelligence that concerns them far more than the rest of the world. M. de Freycinet, with a candour which it is much to be regretted our own Government by no means imitates, has acquainted us with the conclusion of an agreement between the Cabinets of London and Paris for the joint occupation and protection of the Suez Canal. At the very moment that M. de Freycinet was imparting this important information to the French Chamber, the English Prime Minister was displaying high indignation at being supposed to be capable of concealing anything, and denouncing the imputation as within a measurable distance of calumny. But it really seems to us that even when he was working himself up into this display of sensitiveness, he was then actually concealing from Parliament and the nation what it was of the highest consequence they should know. It is time to say that this sort of treatment of Parliament and the nation is unwarrantable, unprecedented, and that a determined stand should be made against it by the Leaders of the Opposition, in the interests of the country at large. The Prime Minister can hardly fail to be aware that this new experiment of his, to join France with us in protecting the Suez Canal, and to do so with the permission of Europe, will be regarded by many people as a virtual infringement of a solemn pledge he has several times given, and as a dangerous advance towards a consummation which every man of sense and foresight will deprecate. We have repeatedly heard proposals for the neutralisation of the Suez Canal. The suggestion is put forward ostensibly in the interests of humanity and peace, but it is really nothing else than insidious attempt to prevent this country from using the canal in time of war. Mr. Gladstone and Sir Charles Dilke have over and over again stated within the past month that the Government could not permit this subject to be discussed by the Conference. But is it not clear that by agreeing with France to send a joint force to protect the Canal, if only Europe will allow them to do so, the Government are paving the way for the definite proposal that the Canal shall be taken under the protection of Europe? The Prime Minister is so enamoured of the European Concert, that seemingly nothing can be proposed that is to obtain its approval which he will not forthwith embrace and regard as sacrosanct. The European Concert has been the subject of much contemptuous criticism. But it will be no laughing matter if, by dint of the European Concert, we are jockeyed out of our special position in Egypt, and made to share equally with others our special interest in the Suez Canal. We are going into a fresh partnership with France in respect of Egypt, and we are gratuitously inviting Europe to control our judgment and limit our action. In a word, the direction of the Foreign Policy of England is to be transferred from Downing-street to any capital in which the European Concert happens to have its head-quarters.—*Standard*.

THE EMBEZZLEMENT OF GOVERNMENT STORES.—In consequence of the numerous and extensive frauds recently discovered in dockyard store and victualling accounts, the Admiralty have decided to submit all ship, store-house, and dockyard accounts in future to the Treasury Audit Department for periodical inspection and examination. The change will necessitate a large increase in the staff of an expensive department, but their lordships consider the check and speedy discovery of *laches* will amply recompense them for the outlay.

THE STATE OF EGYPT.

RECALL OF DERVISH PACHA.

HOSTILITY OF THE SULTAN TO ENGLAND.

The Alexandria correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphed on Wednesday:—

I have just returned from visiting the forts Omuk, Rubebe, Tabia, Elusura, and Babelmex, which were bombarded on the 11th by the inshore squadron—the *Invincible*, *Monarch*, and *Penelope*—and later in the day by four gunboats. After seeing these forts one is amazed at the destruction accomplished, which is not visible from the sea, and at the bravery of the Arab gunners in remaining at their posts so long. The number and variety of their guns are surprising, and the stock of projectiles and ammunition is immense. If they had had more men, well-commanded, the fleet would have had a very warm reception. In one fort we counted several 18-ton guns, ten-inch Armstrongs; in another, four nine-inch and one ten-inch Armstrong; in another, two 15-inch smooth-bores, besides 40-pounder Armstrongs and any number of old 32-pounders. On the 11th one small battery gave the ships a deal of trouble, it being difficult to see because of the sun, but it was effectually silenced at last, every gun being knocked off the trunnions. The men's clothes and tarbushes were scattered in all directions. At Babelmex some Armstrongs were knocked down, others were hit up with muzzle in the air; and embedded in one gun were found shots from a Gattling. Outside the forts there were many nine-inch and ten-inch Armstrongs that had never been mounted. The barracks and magazines are very strongly-built, and stored tons of gunpowder, fuses, and projectiles of every kind. In one building we found 300 five-hundred-pound gun mines; and in three stores, two of which were sealed up, were 200 smaller torpedoes, different from anything else under Arab management. Everything was in good order, and the stock was kept nearly as methodically as in an English arsenal or man-of-war. The neighbourhood of the forts is quite deserted, with the exception of a few people, owners of windmills. We did not see any dead. They were reported to have been removed the same night, but we saw plenty of tarbushes. Living Arabs never would have left these. There were fragments of burnt clothing, as if the men had torn them off in pieces.

Yesterday Dervish Pacha sent many messages to Constantinople, and received many from there. In the middle of the night one arrived recalling him and all his suite. Steam was got up on board the yacht *Izzedin*, and Dervish left at seven in the morning. Soon after it is believed other messages came, as efforts were made to stop the yacht, but they were unsuccessful.

A report was received that if Turkey hesitates any longer to send troops France is anxious to join England, with or without a third Power, in active interference.

Arabi still remains, it is said, at Kaffir Dewar, and plays the part of military dictator as before. He makes and unmakes all appointments, and orders the Mudirs to pay taxes to him for the service of the war. The Khedive's Ministers are afraid or are unwilling to outlaw him officially, although he is still using the Khedive's name as if still a Minister.

Mr. Cornish, of the Alexandria Water Company, has been requested by the general to empty, cleanse, and refill the old Roman wells all over the town, the water supply being completely at Arabi's mercy. Labour is very scarce, and probably three weeks will be required for the work.

The Constantinople correspondent of the same journal says:—

Previous to the burning of Alexandria the Sultan was gradually coming round to the general view of his Council, that the best sequel to the bombardment would be frankly to join England in restoring the *status quo ante* in Egypt, but the news of the partial destruction provoked a violent revulsion of opinion. Abdul Hamid believes that even if the English shells did not actually fire the town it was the second attack of Admiral Seymour which directly caused the excesses of the soldiery and the released convicts. Hence his opposition to the English policy continues strong. He is opposed to sending troops to Egypt, and has even subdued his anger against Germany, and accepted the explanations furnished by Count Hirschfeldt of Germany's non-intervention. The moderate party in the Ottoman Government bitterly regret this hostility, which may lead to the total loss of Egypt. The intentions of Said Pacha, the First Minister, are not altogether clear; but Said thoroughly understands the position, and may simply be working in his own way to overcome a resistance which is full of peril to Turkey.

The *Vakit* contains the following:—The promptitude that ought to be used in restoring order should at least equal that of Admiral Seymour in the bombardment of Alexandria, which has caused the loss of so many innocent lives and the ruin of a prosperity acquired by the labour of centuries. Admiral Seymour only consulted his own puerile eagerness and obstinacy to make a parade in the nineteenth century of such acts of oppression and brutality, and has made such haste to mark with a stain the history of England that we may well ask what will be the position of Englishmen henceforth in Egypt. At last the hate that Mr. Gladstone has sworn against us has sufficed to sow misunderstanding and discord between two great nations on one hand, and on the other to deliver over Egypt to fire and sword. The *Vakit* does not believe the Khedive has asked any assistance from Admiral Seymour, and adds that, although order reigns in Cairo, a sentiment of aversion exists, owing to the devastation committed by England.

DERVISH PACHA AND ARABI.

EXCITEMENT IN CAIRO.

The Alexandria correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, in a message dated Wednesday evening, says:—Two more English regiments are expected immediately. Then it is possible we may advance. The *Orontes* came here empty by some mistake. I hear from good Egyptian sources that Arabi proposes to kill all the Turks in Egypt, and says as there are not many throats to cut it is better to cut them now. We are preparing to dam the Mahmoudieh Canal, so that if Arabi interferes with it further off we shall have enough water to last some time. Our plan is to dam it just below high-water line, so that water will still come in while Arabi lets it alone, and will not run out if he cuts the bank. We shall dam it about three miles outside the town. I have been round the outposts this morning. The line is now composed of Marines on the right and in rear of the centre. The Staffordshire Regiment is at the railway station, forming the centre, with officers' quarters in the station. The 60th Rifles are on the left, with headquarters at Rosetta. A few American and German sailors still remain in town at their respective consulates, but, with this exception, the city is held solely by English soldiers and Marines. The position, however, is somewhat critical.

General Alison has just made a reconnaissance from Ramleh in the direction of Arabi's camp in order to see what better ground might be chosen for our front, as we are unable to see more than four hundred yards from our present line. Arabi's outposts seem some miles distant. He has steam launches on the Mahmoudieh Canal bringing him provisions. This probably explains why he does not cut the canal; but it is quite possible he will dam it across, in which case we shall avoid the difficulty by damming the water just below his dam, as already explained. On Tuesday, Arabi caught an Egyptian sent out by the English to get horses, which are very scarce here. The man had foolishly preserved his pass through the British lines, and Arabi shot him off-hand. This is a curious comment on the fact that Arabi is still maintaining some sort of relations with the Khedive, and that we declare the present condition of affairs one of peace, not of war. However, it is quite possible the state of things will change shortly. The two regiments coming here are the 35th and linked battalion to the 32nd. When these arrive we shall have enough to defend the Mahmoudieh. My own opinion is that Arabi will force us to move forward shortly on account of the Canal, just as he forced the bombardment. He certainly threatens our position, which might any day become untenable.

Meanwhile General Alison is making every arrangement for peace or war, working hard to get his force ready for any emergency. To-day the *Inconstant* (ironclad) arrived with Rogers Bey and other refugees on board. The rest of the Detached Squadron is expected from Cyprus to-morrow.

The Khedive went round the ruins of Alexandria to-day, and was evidently much affected by what he saw. He was accompanied by an escort of troops, and was saluted everywhere by people of all nationalities.

ENGLISH RULE IN ALEXANDRIA.

Telegraphing on Wednesday, the Alexandria correspondent of the *Times* remarks:—Englishmen have not usually enjoyed a great reputation for the administrative work of a campaign; but the very excellent and almost perfect way in which they have taken up the government of this town, in circumstances of exceptional difficulty, has excited the admiration of all. I say "exceptional" difficulty, because it must be remembered that Sir Beauchamp Seymour came into possession of a mass of smoking ruins. Very few persons who were trustworthy, and who knew anything of the place, were near enough to be consulted; and those who remained had either their own business to attend to, or were unable to speak both English and Arabic. Mr. Frank Haselden was, fortunately, secured as chief interpreter; but he has had the greatest difficulty in obtaining assistants. A town in ashes, a hostile, looting, and incendiary population, neither understanding the English language nor able to make themselves understood, were the material on which Lord Charles Beresford, of the *Condor*, and Captain Fisher, of the *Inflexible*, had to work. The result is that, within a week, you may now walk or drive from one end of the city to the other in perfect safety, through heaps of ruins it is true, but seeing a respectful population trying hard to earn a livelihood by returning to their former pursuits. It may be imagined that this result has been brought about by the use of great and necessary severity. I do not believe that the actual executions exceed eight, nor that the total number killed in the work of restoring order exceeds 20. The good effects of English rule are becoming very apparent. I have never attached much value to native public opinion, which is always favourable to the *status quo*, whatever it may be, provided the ruling powers are able to vindicate their authority. But I do not think that there is one among 100 natives in Alexandria who would willingly see a return of native rule; and many have asked me, with evident anxiety, whether there is no hope that our dominion may be extended over the whole country.

EXPECTED ATTACK BY ARABI.

The *Daily Telegraph* correspondent at Alexandria telegraphed on Friday morning:—

Last night our garrison here lay down under the impression that an attack by Arabi's forces was imminent. The chief ground for this anticipation was that the rebel leader had moved his outposts still nearer to the town. Preparations were accordingly made to prevent any surprise. At the first streak of dawn this morning everybody was well on the alert, but no trace of any further movement of the enemy was to be seen. A further reconnaissance is being made to discover whether there is any prospect of Arabi attempting to attack us. With regard to the public executions that are to be carried out here to-day or to-morrow, I am asked to point out that the victims of this very necessary measure are all prisoners who have been convicted of murdering Europeans under circumstances of exceptional barbarity during the bombardment. They have in each case been tried with great care, and condemned to death on sufficient evidence. In all probability these murderers will be shot by Egyptian troops. Lord Charles Beresford, acting as Commandant of Police, besides disliking the employment of English troops for such a purpose, is further of opinion that if the work is done by the Egyptians the lesson to the natives will be all the more effective. It is quite possible these executions may continue some time. Every day brings to light fresh assassins who availed themselves of the confusion following the bombardment to commit pillage and murder.

Another message from the Alexandria correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* dated Thursday, states:—

Dervish Pacha left this morning. I hold in my possession copies of telegraphic messages showing that he has been in communication with Arabi at Kafr-Dawar up to the moment of his departure. Railway officials are collecting all the available pointsmen, platelayers, and other *employés*; everything betokening an early initiative on our part. General Roberts is reported to have landed at Suez.

Reports from Cairo state that Arabi sent up a party of soldiers to pillage the capital, but they were seized and executed by the commander at Cairo. The feeling amongst Europeans here about our inactivity is very acute. The desire that Arabi should be followed up and dealt with in the manner he deserves is so universal that great odium is being attached to the English at their apparent procrastination. Nothing would be easier, with the troops available at present, than to deal him a sudden and crushing blow which would cause him to lose the little prestige he holds over natives and soldiery. He had a most miraculous escape during the bombardment. He was haranguing about twenty soldiers at the railway station, and had just left when a shell fell amongst them, completely killing the soldiers. According to the general accounts, his behaviour on the 11th fully bore out his previous character for personal cowardice. The troops have now been moved up to the Ramleh; but this is a rather tardily executed measure, as the Bedouins have done all the damage that was possible.

From Alexandria the *Standard* learns that among the Arabs the report is persistently current that Arabi intends to attack the city. Some confirmation to the rumour is to be found in the fact that Arabi is becoming greatly encouraged by the British inaction, and is beginning to manifest activity. On Wednesday his patrols penetrated over the city walls. The telegram continues:—The Palace officials are continually asking when we are going to take action against Arabi. Our officers are ashamed to acknowledge that they are tied down by orders from home. The feelings of chagrin and disgust at our forced inaction are general. An Egyptian official of high standing in the Khedive's household said to me this morning. "Instant action is necessary, or the *prestige* you have acquired by the successful bombardment will be gone. It will be said and believed throughout the country that you have been beaten." The Khedive is now forced to admit that within the last two days the control of the country outside Alexandria has entirely slipped away from him.

Great satisfaction is expressed at the Palace at Dervish Pacha's departure. The officials there ascribe much of the present evil to his continued intrigues and counter-intrigues. Even during the last few days he is suspected of communications with the rebels of a nature much removed from loyal to the Khedive, for whom he was at the time professing extreme goodwill and friendship.

Admiral Sullivan arrived this morning in the *Inconstant*. Two other ships of the detached squadron are expected to-morrow. The only French vessels in the harbour are the *Alma* and *Hirondelle*; the remainder of their fleet remains at Port Said.

M. de Lesseps arrived this morning, and has had an interview with the Khedive. His sympathies formerly inclined towards Arabi and the National Party, but after seeing the ruin they have wrought he now expresses himself bitterly against them.

The great influx of Bedouins recently into Egypt is the result of intestine warfare, which has for some time being going on between the tribes. The powerful tribe of Talabeens have proved victorious, and their opponents have sought refuge in Egypt. The Talabeens are very hostile to Turkish or Egyptian rule.

The chief difficulty of restoring order in the city continues to arise out of the conduct of the Greeks. They are quarrelsome in the extreme, and swagger over the natives as if they had destroyed the forts and taken the city. The hatred of the Arabs towards them is intense, and a serious outbreak of disorder may take place at any moment. Lord Charles Beresford is taking every precaution against such an event, and has issued a notice that he will make no distinction whatever between Europeans and natives who may break the peace.

As in some quarters complaints are made that the British Fleet failed to restore order in Alexandria, and so permitted the general looting and conflagration of the place, the following brief recapitulation of the events of the first few days will show that all that was possible with the very limited means at the command of the Admiral was done. Had he had at his command a force capable of at once landing and occupying the town, the course of events would have been altogether different. The bombardment took place on Tuesday, and was partially renewed on the following day. On Wednesday night a reconnaissance on shore discovered that the city was evacuated. The Fleet entered the harbour on Thursday before noon, and occupied the outside forts; but as the natives stated that a large number of troops were still at the Rosetta Gate, and the Admiral had only three hundred men available for landing, nothing could be done until evening, when two hundred Marines marched through the town and dispersed the rioters. On Friday the whole available forces were engaged in the work of restoring order, which was, as far as open acts were concerned, complete that evening. During the operation nine or ten men were taken red-handed in the work of incendiarism, and shot in the streets. This produced the necessary effect. Since then only six men have been executed according to the terms of the Proclamation and after a fair investigation and trial.

Alexandria is now as quiet as any city in England.

THE WAR PREPARATIONS IN ENGLAND.

Significant orders continue to be received at Woolwich from the War Office, augmenting the strength of the proposed expedition, and on Wednesday two additional batteries of field artillery had a warning to prepare for active service, making the artillery force detailed for Egypt eight batteries in all.

Two complete field hospitals are to be established, the one at Malta and the other at Cyprus, each including several large marquees and the necessary furniture and fittings in every detail. A number of mechanics being required to proceed with the expedition in order to repair and attend to the *matériel*, volunteers were called for at the Royal Arsenal a few days back, liberal inducements being offered in the shape of £4 per week wages, with rations, and the men have readily come forward. They consist of wheelwrights, carpenters, and others accustomed to Government work, and they have all been promised a renewal of their present employment on their return to England.

Large sheets of zinc mounted on frames, for placing against a hut or tent when on fire, in order to screen those in the same locality, are being sent away for shipment. They are called "annihilators," and some of their kind have been used with great benefit for years past in the camps at home and in the Colonies.

Fresh supplies of ammunition are being got ready for the fleet at Alexandria, in order to compensate for the deficiency occasioned by the bombardment, and the chief interest surrounds the great shells for the *Inflexible's* 80-ton guns. Most of the projectiles fired at Alexandria were common shells of cast iron, which, bursting by a time-fuze after burying themselves in the earthworks, were calculated to be the most destructive in their effect. Shells of this character for the 80-ton guns are more than 4ft. long, 16in. in diameter, and weigh 1,680lb. a piece, or just three-quarters of a ton. Each contains a bursting charge of 60lb. of powder, and they break up into from fifty to 100 fragments. Against the stone forts Palliser shell with its steel point was used, and a supply of shrapnel and case shot, although it is not stated that either of these were employed, is being sent out. The shrapnel contains 860 balls, of 4oz. each, to be driven forward by the bursting charge; and the case holds as many as 1,920 balls of 8oz., and weighs altogether 1,720lb.

About 100 fresh hands were taken on at the Royal Arsenal on Wednesday, mainly to meet the extra demand for the Nordenfeldt and Martini-Henry cartridges. The Nordenfeldt bullet is of chilled iron or steel; it is 3in. long by 1in. diameter, and its special purpose is to pierce the light armour of torpedo boats, but it is said to have been extensively used in the recent engagement, the guns being then mounted, like the Gatlings in the tops of the ships. The Nordenfeldt mitrailleuse, with its four parallel barrels, lightly mounted on a swivel, and delivering a deadly fire all round for more than 1,000 yards, is a formidable arm in the British Navy. It can discharge 500 shots a minute.

A private telegram, received in London on Wednesday afternoon, states that the Indian Government have made an offer to a firm in Bombay for a steamer for the transport of troops. A large number of vessels suitable for this service are being held by owners and agents, both at Bombay and Calcutta, and freights are unsettled. Inquiries were made in London on Wednesday afternoon for accommodation for the conveyance of 550 marines to Egypt.

A number of telegrams have been sent to Lord Charles Beresford, including one from the Prince of Wales, congratulating him on the part played by the gunboat under his command during the bombardment of Alexandria on the 11th inst.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE ON GOVERNMENT POLICY.—Sir Stafford Northcote has addressed the subjoined letter to Mr. A. B. Forwood, who sent to him copies of resolutions adopted at a Conservative meeting held recently in Hope Hall, Liverpool:—"30, St. James's-place, S.W., July 15, 1852.—My dear Sir,—I have to thank you for sending me the resolutions passed at Hope Hall. I cannot at this moment enter upon the very grave questions to which the events in Egypt must give rise. As regards the other resolutions, I cordially agree with the meeting in attributing the present state of affairs in Ireland very largely to the conduct of the Government, and in condemning the proposed Rules of Procedure in their present shape.—I remain faithfully yours, STAFFORD H. NORTHCOTE." The Marquess of Salisbury has also written to Mr. Forwood acknowledging receipt of the resolutions.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, in answer to a question from Mr. Gourley, said that though it would not be desirable to state the steps taken and contemplated for the protection of European life and property at Port Said, Ismailia, and Suez, he could assure him that nothing had been neglected which was thought necessary. The House then went into Committee and concluded the consideration of the Arrears Bill. Several new clauses were proposed by private members and negatived. The most important was a clause by Sir G. Campbell providing that a release from arrears should be a bar to proceedings by other creditors, which was resisted by Mr. Gladstone on the ground that the object of the Bill was to put the tenant in a position to go into the Land Court, and that it was not intended to interfere with his debts further than was necessary for that purpose. After this amendment had been negatived, none of the members in whose names the other new clauses stood being present, the Chairman put the question that the Bill be reported with amendments. A division was taken on this motion, and it was carried by 128 to 38. On the question that the Bill be reported to-day, Mr. Gibson, remarking that the latter stages of the bill had been passed with a rapidity which had taken many by surprise, asked for an assurance that an opportunity would be given for a discussion of the new clause relating to emigration standing in the name of Mr. Gregory, in which, he said, much interest was felt. Mr. Gladstone, who repudiated with some warmth the suggestion that there had been unusual haste, stated that the bill would be re-committed for the purpose of discussing the subject. He also announced that the Government would immediately take the steps requisite to enable them to appoint a fourth Land Commissioner. The report was fixed for to-day and the third reading for Friday. The next Order was the Contagious Diseases Acts Repeal Bill, and after the Speaker had disposed of a preliminary objection taken on the ground that the bill had not been printed—he was called on by Mr. Callan to exclude strangers. On this point a division was taken, and the House declined by 173 to 36 to clear the galleries. With regard to the Ladies' Gallery, the Speaker said he had closed that over which he had control, and directed the messengers at the other to acquaint the ladies who presented themselves of the nature of the business. Mr. Stansfeld having moved the second reading, Mr. Childers met it by the Previous Question, on the ground that a Committee was now sitting which was expected to report in a week or two. Sir S. Northcote supported this view, and the Previous Question was carried. Mr. Stevenson next moved the second reading of his Bill for Prohibiting the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday, and Mr. Warton energetically denounced it as the offspring of tyranny and cant. In the end it was talked out, and in the course of the discussion Sir J. Pease spoke in favour of the principle, but with the reservation that the details would require considerable modification. Mr. Ewart bore testimony to the success of the Irish Act; and Mr. Gibson, who corroborated this, joined with Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson and Mr. J. G. Talbot in insisting that a change of this importance should not be made until the responsible Government had given an opinion on it. Mr. Hibbert, the only member of the Government present, declined to express anybody's opinion but his own, which he said was favourable to Sunday closing, though not to this particular Bill. Mr. Phipps spoke against the Bill; and Mr. Callan, who talked it out, accused the Home Secretary of "dodging behind the Speaker's Chair" when the bill was called on. Some other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at six o'clock.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM "TRUTH.")

There is a great demand for houses at Cowes this season. Egypt, which had been taken by Lord and Lady Dudley, is to be sublet, and has not yet found a tenant. Sir Thomas and Lady Brassey have taken Rosetta, and Montretout has just been sold to Lady Wickens. Lady Harrington has a large family party with her at Stanhope Lodge, and Lord and Lady Dorchester and Lady Cardigan are expected at their respective villas. It is understood that the Empress Eugénie will occupy Osborne Cottage for a short time.

The marriage of the Duke of Westminster and the Hon. Katherine Cavendish will take place by special licence on Saturday week at Holkham Hall, Norfolk, the family place of the bride's brother-in-law, Lord Leicester. The ceremony will be strictly private, and only a few of the nearest relatives will be present. The Duke and Duchess will pass their honeymoon at Fonthill House, Wilts, the mansion built on the site of Beckford's Abbey by the late Marquis of Westminster.

To obtain accurate information respecting the shooting prospects in Scotland is exceedingly difficult, as it is everybody's interest in the North to make the best of things, while nobody is particularly concerned to put about unfavourable reports; but there seems no reason to doubt that the grouse disease has increased considerably during the last few weeks, and that it prevails generally throughout the Highlands. The accounts of the deer are excellent, and all the big forests are let except Lachluichart (Lady Ashburton's in Ross-shire), and Blackmount (Lord Breadalbane's in Argyllshire, leased to Lord Dudley), which was occupied last year by Sir Henry Allsopp, who has this season gone mubh further north, having taken Lord Seafield's shootings and forest Balmacaan, beyond Inverness.

The origin of the present troubles in Egypt was a speculation of Ismael. He paid £100,000 into the hands of his friends in Cairo, with which they were to buy support for him. Two negro regiments were purchased. He was to land, and these regiments, with Arabi at their head, were to declare for him. After he had spent his money, his heart failed him, and then Arabi determined to act without him. He at once turned to Constantinople, and promised large sums of money if he were supported. Then commenced a series of intrigues, into which the French allowed themselves to be drawn. When Dervish was sent to Egypt, his mission was, if possible, to patch up some sort of apparent reconciliation between Arabi and the Khedive, which would have been followed by the deposition of the latter. The Sultan, however, when the crisis came, was afraid of discovery, and, in the end, Dervish, acting under his instructions, urged Arabi to act with moderation. But Arabi knew with whom he had to deal, and he declined to put himself in Turkish hands; in which perhaps he was wise, for he would have been strangled or poisoned as an inconvenient and compromising associate.

The Government are to be praised for having cut the Gordian knot by the bombardment of the forts of Alexandria. But they would have been wiser had they taken the precaution to have some troops at hand. Had 5,000 troops been landed, Alexandria would not have been burnt, Europeans would not have been massacred, and the troops of Arabi would probably have at once gone over to the winning side. The landing of English troops would have been justified to Europe on the ground of the inevitable logic of events. No one can for a moment assert that, with the means to do so, the English Admiral would have been blamed by anyone for preventing incendiary fires or massacres.

The Peace-at-all-Price party is not very strongly represented in the House of Commons. Their total number is probably under twenty, and of these perhaps half-a-dozen would vote against Ministers if they thought that the result of the vote would be a Ministerial defeat. But it is so unlikely that a vote of want of confidence would net alike